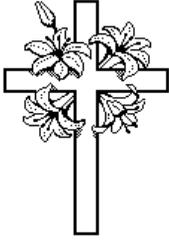


Victorious





To the world Jesus seemed like a defeated man... until his resurrection from the dead on the third day. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering our favorite athlete. Rather, we are active participants in Christ's triumph... we are VICTORIOUS. That's the main point of Easter and of the sermons based on the book of Revelation for this Easter season:

Today – VICTORIOUS: Over Our Past

Grace Lutheran Church

6550 Fairmont Blvd

Yorba Linda, CA 92886

714-779-2384 / www.gracelutheran.church

*Gathering around GRACE – Growing in GRACE – Going with GRACE
In the land of gracious living*

We are part of the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod, churches throughout the world united to share Jesus.

We are part of the federation of Californian Lutheran High School here in southern California.

Whether you are a first time visitor or back at “home”, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come and worship with us again.

- If you would like more information about Grace Church, we would love to share. Speak with Pastor Sievert or any of our members. You may also want to check out our website www.gracelutheran.church.



- Restrooms are located across the breezeway just inside our Grace Hall.

Notice today that The Paschal Candle, lighted during the Easter Season and at every baptism, connects us to the Savior's resurrection. As Jesus lives and is the light of the world, so we have life with God. Since we were not meeting in person at this time last year, today marks the first time the candle has been used in worship!



Worship

Easter 3
May 1, 2022

OPENING RESPONSE

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The open tomb proclaims his victory.

C: Death no longer has dominion; life will reign eternally.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven 460

WE STAND FOR A REMINDER OF OUR BAPTISM INTO GOD'S NAME.

[L] In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

[C] Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

[L] Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[C] **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

In the Easter Gospel, Jesus gives his church the Keys, the power to forgive sins in his name. Heaven is open!

[L] When Jesus appeared to the disciples on Easter evening, he told them, "Peace be with you. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

[C] **Amen. (spoken)**

This Is The Feast of Victory replaces the song of Glory during the Easter season. It echoes the song of victory for the Lamb in the book of Revelation.

[L] In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord. **THE WORD**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[L] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[L] Let us pray.

O God, by the humbling of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C] **Amen. (spoken)**

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1-22

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

¹³ "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with

authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

¹⁷Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

¹⁸Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. ²¹All those who heard him were astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²²Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 30

Refrain: L. You have turned my wailing into dancing, into dancing.

C. Repeat

L: I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out / of the depths
And did not let my enemies gloat / over me,
LORD my God, I called to / you for help, and you / healed me.
You, LORD, brought me up from the realm / of the dead;
You spared me from going down / to the pit. **REFRAIN**

**C: Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful / people;
Praise his / holy name.**

**For his anger lasts only a / moment,
But his favor lasts a / lifetime;**

**Weeping may stay / for the night,
But rejoicing comes in the / morning.**

Glory be to the Father, and / to the Son, and to the Holy / Spirit,

**as it was in the be- / ginning, is now, and will be forever. /
Amen. REFRAIN**

Peter's past haunted him for he had denied knowing Jesus three times, but this appearance of the risen Savior changes it all. Victory is ours, even over our past failures.

GOSPEL

John 21:4-17

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered.

⁶ He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep.

After the Gospel, we say:

L. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God, he gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

NOTICE WHAT HE IS WORTHY TO DO!

HYMN OF THE DAY

This Joyful Eastertide 449

SERMON

Revelation 5:6-14

⁶Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
because you were slain,
and with your blood you purchased for God
persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

¹⁰You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth."

¹¹Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹²In a loud voice they were saying:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!"

¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be praise and honor and glory and power,
for ever and ever!”

¹⁴The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshi**NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING OF PRAYERS

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.**