

HE IS NOT HERE; HE HAS RISEN,

EASTER SUNDAY



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS  
[www.dulutheran.org](http://www.dulutheran.org)

April 5, 2026

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## Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

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### WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here today or watching online, we are happy you have joined us.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [L] are spoken by the leader, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation. If you prefer to use a physical hymnal or wish to see the songs in four-part harmony, there are hymnals available in the pew stands.

### FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank you** to Elder Steve Shult for leading this morning's service! Thank you to our choir, also, for adding their musical talents.

**Altar Flowers:** Today's bouquet is given to the glory of God by Wanda & Rick Stanius in memory of Gene Altiere.

**Egg Hunt:** Following the service we will be having an egg hunt! Youth of all ages—toddlers to young adults—are welcome to join in. Anyone wishing to participate should meet in the Fellowship Hall after the service to get started.

**Office Hours:** Pastor Warskow will not be in the office tomorrow, Monday April 6th. He will have office hours again on **Monday, April 13th.**

**Youth Rally Fundraiser:** Our Youth Group is still taking orders for Shepherd of the Hills shirts! The proceeds will go towards the cost of attending the 2026 WELS International Youth Rally this summer. You can find order forms on the table under the mailboxes. The deadline for orders is next **Sunday, April 12th.** Please speak with Becky Foster if you have any questions.

**Women's Book Club:** This week we will be starting our new book, "Zechariah, Haggai, & Malachi" by John MacArthur. We'll plan to meet for dinner and review on **Monday, July 13th at 6pm** at church. Please let Kely Duns Moor ([kjduunsmoor@gmail.com](mailto:kjdunsmoor@gmail.com)) if you plan to join.

*For more announcements and event information, visit the church website at [www.dulutheran.org/events](http://www.dulutheran.org/events) or sign up for our weekly email at [www.dulutheran.org/subscribe](http://www.dulutheran.org/subscribe). You can also view the church calendar at [www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar](http://www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar).*



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness— see what to -  
 2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed when Christ lay  
 3 This is a sight that glad - dens— what peace it  
 4 Now I will cling for - ev - er to Christ, my  
 5 He brings me to the por - tal that leads to



day is done! Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, comes  
 in the tomb; but lo, he now is rout - ed, his  
 does im - part! Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens the  
 Sav - ior dear. My Lord will leave me nev - er; with  
 bliss un - told, where - on this rhyme im - mor - tal is



forth the glo - rious sun. My Sav - ior there was  
 boast is turned to gloom. For Christ a - gain is  
 joy with - in my heart. No gloom shall ev - er  
 him I need not fear. He rends death's i - ron  
 found in script of gold: "Who there my cross has



laid where our bed must be made when to the  
 free; in glo - rious vic - to - ry he who is  
 shake, no foe shall ev - er take the hope which  
 chain; he breaks through sin and pain. He shat - ters  
 shared finds here a crown pre - pared; who there with



realms of light our spir - it wings its flight.  
 strong to save has tri - umphed o'er the grave.  
 God's own Son in love for me has won.  
 hell's dark thrall; I fol - low him through all.  
 me has died shall here be glo - ri - fied."

Stand

L: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

L: We celebrate this festival day in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Upon the hill the cross stands empty. Morning light breaks upon the tomb.

C: Christ is risen, Alleluia!

L: Within us, new life is awakened. God has given new hope to a dying world.

C: **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia! Amen!**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

L: Lord, prepare us for worship as we confess our sins.

C: **Almighty Lord God, we have come together to stand in your presence, to hear your Word, and to worship you by celebrating the resurrection of your Son**

L: But who may appear in your presence, heavenly Father, and who may call on you for help?

C: **The one who has clean hands and a pure heart shall receive blessings from the Lord.**

L: O holy and righteous God, you alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against you and are worthy to receive only your wrath and condemnation. But your mercies never end; they are new every day. With your command and promise in mind, therefore, we come to you to confess our sins.

C: **O holy and merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But at your gracious invitation I come to you, and for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ, I plead: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

L: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son To be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.**

*Be seated*

## CHOIR: Welcome, Happy Morning

CW 469

*Choir sings stanzas 1-3; congregation joins on stanza 4 and final refrain*

1 "Welcome, happy morning!"  
age to age shall say;  
"Hell today is vanquished;  
heav'n is won today!"  
Lo, the dead is living,  
God forevermore!  
Him, their true Creator,  
all his works adore. (Refrain)

3 Source of all things living,  
you came down to die,  
plumbed the depths of hell to  
raise us up on high.  
Come, then, true and faithful,  
come, fulfill your word;  
this is your third morning—  
rise, O buried Lord. (Refrain)

Ref "Welcome, happy morning!"  
age to age shall say;  
"Hell today is vanquished;  
heav'n is won today!"

2 Maker and Redeemer,  
life and health of all,  
God from heav'n beholding  
human nature's fall,  
of the Father's Godhead  
you, the only Son,  
mankind to deliver  
manhood did put on. (Refrain)

4 *Congregation joins:*  
**Free the souls long prisoned,  
bound with Satan's chain;  
all that now is fallen  
raise to life again.  
Show your face in brightness;  
shine in ev'ry land  
as in Eden's garden  
when the world began.  
(Refrain)**

*Stand*

**L:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**L:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, by your glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised by him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life ever rejoicing in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH**

*Apostles' Creed*

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**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will 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.**

*Be seated*

## **READING: The Empty Tomb**

After the Sabbath, early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. And they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. Mary Magdalene, out of whom [Jesus] had driven seven demons, saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

When the other women entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with 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; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you. Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third

day be raised again.” Then they remembered his words. So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

**HYMN: Alleluia! Jesus Lives**

CW 455 sts. 1-2



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
2 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice; praise him, ran-somed ones of earth.



from the gloom-y house of death forth the con-quer - or has gone,  
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
Praise the Vic - tor-King, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.

**RESPONSIVE READING: Peter and John find the grave empty, Jesus appears to Mary**

**L:** Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. And he went away, wondering to himself what had happened. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

**WOMEN:** Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

**MEN:** They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

**WOMEN:** "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

**L:** "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

**WOMEN:** Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

**L:** Jesus said to her, "Mary."

**WOMEN:** She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).

**MEN:** Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

**L:** Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

**HYMN: Alleluia! Jesus Lives**

*CW 455 sts. 3–4*



3 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and fre-quent sigh?  
4 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life is yours e - ter - nal - ly;



He who died our broth-er here lives our broth-er still on high,  
joined to him, your liv - ing head, where he is, you too shall be;



lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his Church be - low.  
you with him at his right hand vic - tor o - ver death shall stand.

**READING: Jesus appears to the other women**

Suddenly Jesus met [the other women]. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

When the women came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

*Stand*

**HYMN: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

*CW 465 sts. 1–2*

*Printed on the next page*



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" saints on  
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the

earth and an - gels say. Raise your joys and  
 fight, the bat - tle won. Lo, our sun's e -

tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.  
 clipse is o'er; lo, he sets in blood no more.

## RESPONSIVE READING: Two men see Jesus on the road to Emmaus

- L: Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.
- C: **He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"**
- L: They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"
- C: **"What things?" he asked.**
- L: About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."
- C: **He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.**
- L: As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.
- C: **When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"**

L: They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

**HYMN: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

*CW 465 sts. 3-4*

3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has  
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O

burst the gates of hell. Death in vain for -  
death, is now your sting? Once he died our

bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.  
souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

**READING: Jesus appears to the disciples in Jerusalem**

While they were still talking about this, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

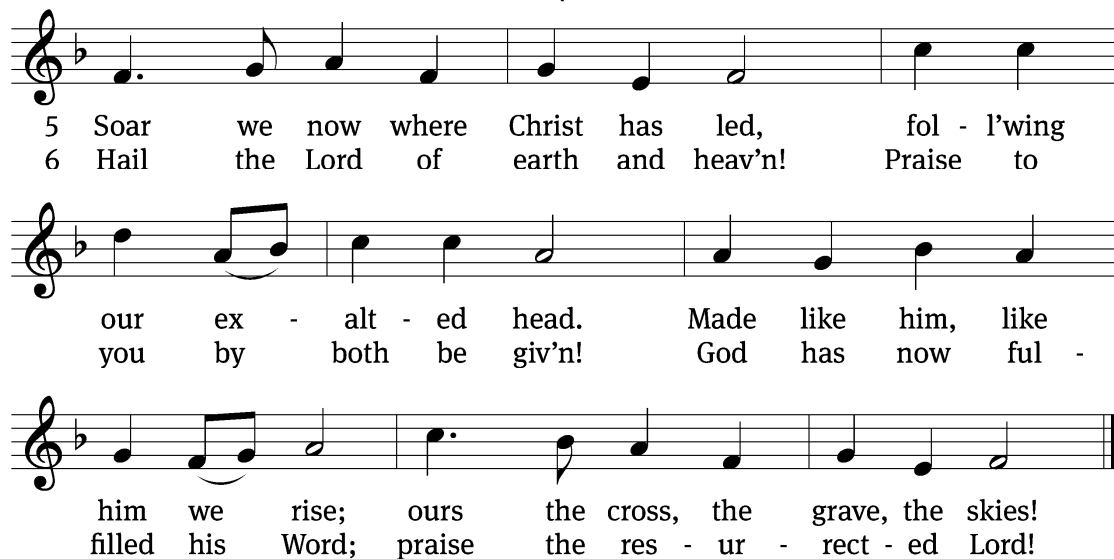
Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."



5 Soar we now where Christ has led, fol - l'wing  
6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to

our ex - alt - ed head. Made like him, like  
you by both be giv'n! God has now ful -

him we rise; ours the cross, the grave, the skies!  
filled his Word; praise the res - ur - rect - ed Lord!

*Be seated*

### THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE: He is Risen!

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have enough room for the books that should be written. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you have received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

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. 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. Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

## WORSHIPPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS

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Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, scan the QR code here or visit our website: [www.duluth.lutheran.org](http://www.duluth.lutheran.org) and click on the "GIVE" tab.

*Stand*

### PRAYER

**L:** Lord Jesus, on this first day of the week, we come together to celebrate your resurrection from the grave.

**C:** **He is risen! Alleluia!**

**L:** You have promised that though our sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. So often we spoil our celebrations of your grace. Sin plagues our thoughts, words and actions. Forgive us, Lord Jesus. When our sins weigh heavily upon our hearts, assure us that you have arisen and our sins have been forgiven.

**C:** **He is risen! Alleluia!**

**L:** Dear Jesus, we sometimes become so busy with all the things of this life that the hope of Easter fades. When the pace of life causes us to worry about where we must be, what we must do, and what is next, remind us that your empty tomb gives us victory over sin, death and hell. Sustain us, O Lord, with the sure and certain hope that we shall live forever with you when all life's hectic events cease.

**C:** **He is risen! Alleluia!**

**L:** Death surrounds us all every day. As we watch our loved ones die, our hearts are saddened, and our eyes fill with tears. We know we too will die and our bodies will rest in the grave. Lord Jesus, give us confidence, hope, and joy in the face of death. When death reaches for us and our loved ones, comfort us with your empty tomb. Our graves will not hold us any more than your grave could hold you. Preserve us in faith that we may be reunited with all believers and sing your praise forever. Give us the courage to share with others the hope we have because of your triumphant resurrection from the dead.

**C:** **He is risen! Alleluia! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**L:** While we wait for you to take us home, we must face many trials and sorrows. We come to you with our personal prayers.

*Silence for personal prayers.*

**L:** Alleluia! Lord Jesus, you have arisen. Help us trust your resurrection in the days ahead, whether they are filled with joy or sorrow. Guide us each day until we stand before you to sing your praise forever. Now we bring our requests to you in the words of the prayer you have taught us:

### 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;**

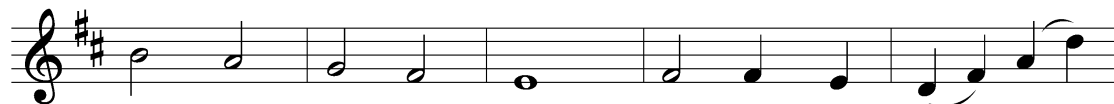
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: I Know That My Redeemer Lives

CW 441



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
3 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to  
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives all - glo - rious  
plead for me a - bove; he lives my hun - gry  
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
in the sky; he lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.  
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

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!

*Be seated*

**Acknowledgments**

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