

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, April 9, 2023
Resurrection of Our Lord
Easter Day



We welcome the Fairplay Brass to our Sunrise Easter Service. We sincerely appreciate and are thankful for their generously sharing their gifted talents. A basket for thank-offerings for them is on the piano.

**At the 9:30 service, we welcome through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Chloe Marie Seiffert daughter of Joshua and Stephanie Seiffert
Isabella Josephine Shield daughter of Dylan and Ashley Shields**

Introduction to the Day

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.

PRELUDE

**We welcome you to worship in the name of the Risen Lord
*Three knocks at the door.***

Let us rise and turn toward the Processional Cross.

P: This is the day that the Lord has made

C: We will rejoice and be glad in it.

P: Why are you looking among the dead for the One who is alive? He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

P: Grace and peace to you from the One who is, and who was, and who is to come, from the Lord, Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

C: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priest to serve the Father—to him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* 365

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,

holy and merciful,

holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,

you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,

for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ,

who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also, with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *This Is the Feast* p. 140

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

L: A reading from Acts.

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L Let us read the Psalm responsively by verse.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.
¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**
²⁰“This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter.”
²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**
²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**
²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L: A reading from Colossians.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 142

Alleluia Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

Sorrow gives way to “fear and great joy” when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for

you.”⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day Sunrise Service *Thine is the Glory* 376

Hymn of the Day at 9:30 Service *Borning Cry* 732

HOLY BAPTISM (9:30 service) p.227 in the front of the hymnal

THE NICENE CREED p. 104

Prayers of Intercession

A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You call your church to witness to your salvation. We give thanks for (*Dietrich Bonhoeffer and*) all theologians, preachers, and teachers who proclaim your gospel. Equip all the baptized to share the joy of the resurrection in all we say and do. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You bring abundant life throughout creation. The green blade rises, and all creation greets the resurrection dawn. Preserve vineyards and orchards and those who tend to them. Feed us with the fruits of creation. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You show your steadfast love without regard to borders, barriers, or human-made divisions. Infuse your justice in every nation of the world (*places of concern or conflict may be named*) that all experience the peace that only you can give. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized (*especially*) and for all health care workers who care for them. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You have put gladness in our hearts. Inspire musicians and dancers to rejoice with songs of victory. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who foster our assembly's song. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Welcoming God, we pray for the communities that have received and continue to care for the young adults that you have called to serve. Bless and accompany our brothers and sisters so that together we may continue to grow your global church. We are grateful for the work of Claire

Weisner as she does Your work with her hands in Argentina and Uruguay. Risen Lord, in your mercy.

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: As you have raised Jesus from the dead, you show us your resurrection promise. With your holy ones who have sung your praise (*especially*), free us from fear and empower us to go and tell the good news. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Responding in Love

Our Offerings *This is our response to God's grace.*

Our Offering of Music Sunrise Service FAIRPLAY BRASS

CHOIR ANTHEM *Crown Him the Risen Lord*

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self.

We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.

In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One.

In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING P.144 *(in the beginning of the hymnal)*

Dialogue

Preface by the Pastor

Holy Holy Holy

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

Holy God, you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell;
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness;
out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table,
and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering;
within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER P. 145

Invitation to Communion

P: Come and know Christ,
broken and poured out for you.

The assembly is seated.

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

Communion Song *Lamb of God You Take Away p. 146*

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

(repeat twice)

*Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word.*

The assembly stands.

Prayer after Communion

A: Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

P: The God of all,
who raised + Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.
Amen.

Sending Song: *Christ is Risen 382*

Postlude (Sunrise: THE FAIRPLAY BRASS)

Dismissal

P; Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.
C: Thanks be to God.

We extend our sympathies to the Carson family. Jim's mother recently passed away. Please keep them in your prayers.

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during the receiving of the offering. We practice "open Communion" here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the "real presence" of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving "The Body of Christ."

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Jim Allen, Agnes Cryder, Don & Helen Delaney, Joanne Fisher, Mick Miller, David Mitchell (WeCares of Loyalsock), Cora Pelletier, Shane Snyder, and all of our shut-ins.

We also remember in prayer Family Promise; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton – ELCA; Bishop Craig A. Miller - USS; for our Companion Synods in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and we pray for peace in Ukraine and an end to war; those effected by the tornadoes and flooding and snow.

We pray for the safety of our military troops around the world including Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jade Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Trevor and Nehemiah Eberhart, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Kevin Titus, and Jenna White. We also lift up in prayer their families who strive to keep a normalcy in the family and continue on often with added stress.

Special thanks to this weeks’ helpers: Lector –6:00 a.m. Pam Wehler, 9:30 Grace Welshans; Assisting Ministers—Bill Ely Jr and Ken Dougherty; Head Usher – Shane Snyder; Teller – Dawn McCloskey; Bulletin Sponsor –Pastor and Mrs. Aucker.

Next week’s helpers: Lector –Cozette Stoltzfus; Assisting Ministers –Gary Johnson, Karen Aucker; Head Usher –Shane Snyder; Teller –Dawn McCloskey; Bulletin Sponsor—Pastor and Mrs. Aucker. Flowers—Shelby Rice

The Sanctuary Candle in April is in memory of loved ones by Pastor and Mrs. Aucker.

The Lutheran Church Women’s Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran. Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

THANK YOU !!! to all who donated and assisted with the Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Breakfast!

THANKS To Julie Bowes for the donation of a book case to the Sunday School!

Pictorial Directory

The last pictorial directory of the members of St. John Lutheran was created in 2009. Over the past fourteen years we have had a number of changes with births, new members, and deaths, along with the pandemic that had a significant impact upon us. It was suggested that we create a new pictorial directory so people have a visual picture of our members.

We also need information from you to verify what we have on file. We have no birthdates on some people. We have a lot of young adults who moved away from home but we have no addresses, phone numbers or emails for them. Just their parent’s address.

So, we are asking each of you to send us a photo of yourselves and send it by email to St. John Lutheran Church at: stjohn@stjl.org

Please take a close-up photo of ourselves or your family. Use your cell phone or have someone else take your photo and email it to St. John. Please send us a close-up photo. A dot standing out in the field will not show your smiley face.

Please also send us your address, email, and phone number to update the directory and make sure it is accurate. A number of people provided their home phone number years ago but have since discontinued their home phone and use only their cell phones. If you do not want your cell phone listed, please note that when you send us your photo and information
Current church directories are always available without photos. Just ask Pastor to print one out for you. It only takes a few minutes. Remember the directory is only as good as the information that we have available.

Special Thanks to Shelby Rice for volunteering to coordinate the pictorial directory project. Contact her for any information regarding photos. You can text your pictures directly to Shelby 570.506.4934

This bulletin and more can be found on church site www.stjl.org

Spring Cash Sunday will be held on May 7 this year. Donations will be used for a new speaker in the front of the sanctuary to improve the audio in our recorded worship services. A Spring Cash Sunday envelope will be mailed to every household in the congregation in April. A return envelope can be used for your donation. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Our on-going Needs. Sponsors sheets are available on the second-floor tower bulletin board for the Sanctuary Candle, Weekly Bulletins, Flowers, and Bread Donors (starting in April). You can sponsor any of the above by placing your name on the sponsor sheets and they will be listed in the bulletin. Enclose money in your offering envelope: Sanctuary candle \$6; Weekly bulletin \$10; Flowers provided by Russell Florists (\$50), or use our beautiful arrangement of silk flowers \$25; or you can provide your own. If you wish to provide your own, please contact Mrs. Aucker. Payment should be made to “St. John Lutheran Church.”

Youth Ministry

Camp Mt. Luther is seeking adult camp counselors for the summer camping season. You must be a high school graduate this summer and have experience working with children and youth. Check the Camp Mount Luther website for information.

Camp Mt. Luther has a new way to send out their summer camp flyers and registration. There is a QR code available here at the church on the bulletin board and in the annual report that you scan and read. You can download the registration, medical, and other forms from the QR code.

Turn in registrations to Molly Hollick. **Deadline is April 9**

Holy Humor Sunday, April 16, 9:30 a.m. The Blues Brothers will return to St. John! “Holy Humor Sunday” celebrations of Jesus’ resurrection on the Sunday after Easter. The custom was rooted in the musings of early church theologians that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. *Please plan to wear tie dye or very bright colors!*

Calendar

Sunday, April 9, 2023

Easter

- 6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with the Fairplay Brass
 - 7:30 a.m. Breakfast
 - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Baptisms
- DEADLINE FOR CAMP REGISTRATIONS. Turn applications into Molly Hollick today.

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

- 9:30 a.m. West Branch Conference Clergy meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Resumes!

Thursday, April 13, 2023

- Noon Jersey Shore Ministerium meeting at noon
- 4:00 p.m. Pack boxes for food distribution

Friday, April 14, 2023

- 9 am-1 pm Food Distribution

Sunday, April 16, 2023

Holy Humor Sunday

Please wear tie-dye or BRIGHT colors

- 8:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Church and Worship Service
- 10:30 a.m. Outreach Committee meeting
- 2:00 p.m. Catechism Class

CAN YOU
IMAGINE BEING
GREETED BY THE
RISEN JESUS?

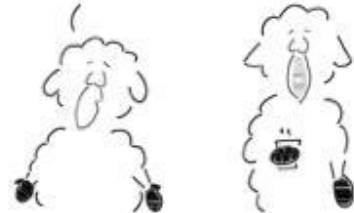


WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

RIGHT!? AND HE OFFERS
THEM THE STANDARD
GREETING, LIKE IT'S
NO BIG DEAL!

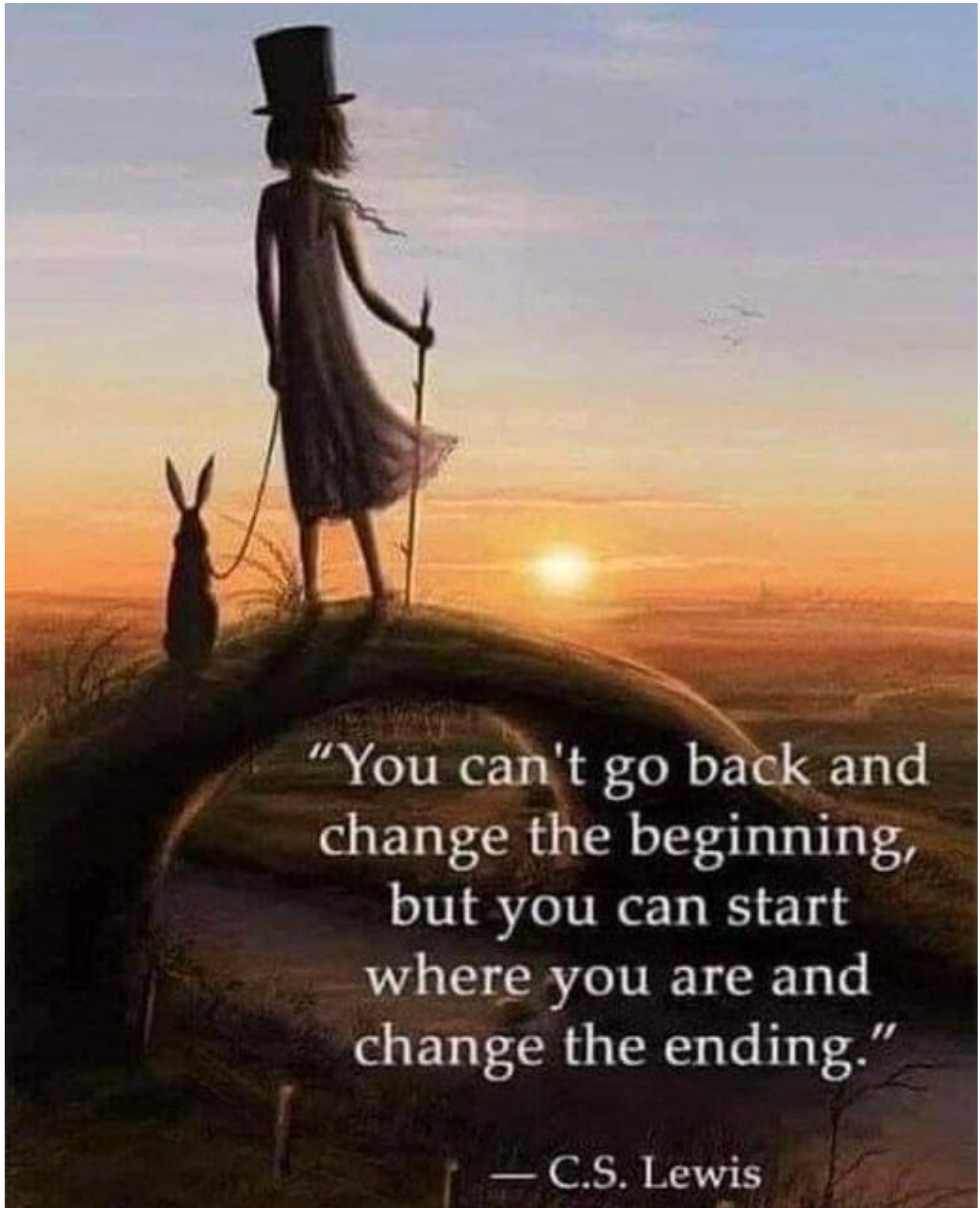


WOW! THAT TOTALLY
BRINGS NEW MEANING
TO "WHAT'S UP?"



MATTHEW 28:1-10

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"You can't go back and
change the beginning,
but you can start
where you are and
change the ending."

— C.S. Lewis