



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2020 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Sue Boeker on her birthday by Ralph and Marilyn Boeker.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

At the Lamb's High Feast from *Ten Choral Improvisations*,
set VI, op. 16 by Paul Manz

WELCOME

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the life beyond all death,
the joy beyond all sorrow, our everlasting home.

Amen.

Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death,
let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new.

Newness scares us, and we confess to shutting our doors in fear.

We have not listened to voices that challenge us.

We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new directions.

Our hearts are slow to believe your promises.

**Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear
the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

People of God: Christ is alive, and death has lost its power.

Through the waters of baptism

you have been born anew by the living word of God.

Know that your sins are forgiven in ✠ Jesus' name

and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you

both now and forever.

Amen.

(Verses 1, 5, 6, 7, and 8)

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious king,
who has washed us in the tide flowing from his wounded side. Alleluia!**

**Mighty victim from the sky, hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
you have conquered in the fight, you have brought us life and light. Alleluia!**

**Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall;
you have opened paradise, and your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!**

**Easter triumph, Easter joy, this alone can sin destroy!
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!**

**Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia!**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God,
your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread.
Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

A reading from Acts.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made Jesus both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone to whom the Lord our God calls.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

The refrain is introduced by the cantor.

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.

*Psalm
Refrain*



I will call up - on the name of the LORD.

*Psalm
Tone*




¹I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

²**for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave | came upon me;
I came to | grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name | of the LORD:**

“O LORD, I pray you, | save my life.” 


¹²How shall I re- | pay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God’s people.

¹⁵**Precious in your | sight, O LORD,
is the death | of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I | am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me | from my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the LORD.** 

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God’s people,

¹⁹**in the courts of | the LORD’s house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. | Hallelujah!** 

A reading from First Peter.

¹⁷If you invoke as God the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰Christ was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through Christ you have come to trust in God, who raised Christ from the dead into glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS' SERMON

Who is Essential?

Stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?”

They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

The Road to Emmaus Feels Longer This Year

Stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

#377

**Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

**Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.**

Refrain

**Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me.**

Refrain

**Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent: death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open! Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.**

Refrain

**City of God, Easter forever, golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels, sing with creation to God the I AM!**

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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Separated in our residences but united by God's promises of restoration, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Come to the church, so burdened by heartache. Give us faith to know your loving presence among us. Open the scriptures to us, and nourish us with the bread of your word. Direct our pastors, deacons and church leaders in their novel and difficult tasks. Bind into one all denominations around the globe in hope for the renewal of all things, and uphold the work of the World Council of Churches.

A brief silence.

O God our merciful Savior,
give ear to us.

Come to the earth. Bless all the natural world. Renew landscapes, cleanse the waters, and protect the animals. Save your people especially at this time from destructive storms and floods. Keep viruses in check, for the sake of your beloved humans.

A brief silence.

O God our benevolent Gardener,
give ear to us.

Come to the nations. Preserve all peoples from war and violence. Guide the leaders of nations, our president, our governors, and our legislators toward wise decisions in struggling against the virus and in reviving the economy. Teach all peoples how to share limited resources with those in greater need. Guide the work of the United Nations during this unprecedented situation.

A brief silence.

O God our mighty Peacemaker,
give ear to us.

Come to all who suffer from the virus. Comfort the mourners, heal the sick, sustain medical workers. Empower those researchers who are seeking a vaccine. Stay with us, and accompany all those who are isolated or afraid. Give to those with prior ailments and chronic disease their necessary medical care. Especially we pray for those we name here before you.

A brief silence.

O God our compassionate Healer,
give ear to us.

As at Emmaus you joined the meal of the disciples, so come also to our tables. Uphold farmers, ranchers, migrant workers, and all who produce, package and market our food. Guard the health of those who work at grocery stores. Bless the efforts of local food banks. Enable us to feed the children who have relied on food given out at school. Show us how to feed the people living in refugee camps and nations experiencing famine and drought.

A brief silence.

O God our generous Provider,
give ear to us.

Walk with us on our roadways, whether marked with sorrow or joy, and receive our petitions, both sad lament or fervent praise.

A longer period of silence.

O God our beloved Companion,
give ear to us.

Accept our praises for those who have died in the faith, including those stricken with the virus, and the medical workers who died healing others. Accompany us now, as you did them, until at the end of all things we feast at your table with all the saints in glory.

A brief silence.

O God, the Mystery of Life,
give ear to us.

With bold confidence in your providence, O holy and gracious God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our saving Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you.

 **Peace be with you.**

*Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today
to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.*

Sit

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

*Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.*

Day of Arising by Carl Schalk

Richard Moose, soloist

Day of arising, Christ on the roadway,
unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day,
and bread is broken, Christ is made known.
When we are walking, doubtful and dreading,
blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting
our invitation: Stay, do not part.
Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken.
This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
when the church gathers, when bread is broken,
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.
Christ, our companion, hope for the journey,
bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning
that all creation with you may rise.

Stand as able

OFFERTORY HYMN

Thine Is the Glory

#376

(Verse 1)

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!**

Let us pray. Merciful God,
**our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration,
but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives.
Feed us again at this table for service in your name,
in the strength of the risen Christ.
Amen.**

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.

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things:

you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos,

and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:

freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile,

wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:

forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death,

the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us:

renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.

Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

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.**

HYMN

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

#389

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives where even hope has died.**

**Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and ev'ry age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life,
fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

**Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.**

***Refrain: Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!***

**For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo, and in its conquest his might did show.**

Refrain

**The angel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare. Only the grave-clothes are lying there."**

Refrain

**"Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won."**

Refrain

**Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing: he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.**

Refrain

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
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