## Third Sunday of Easter

## ~ April 14, 2024 ~

## St. John’s & St. Peter’s

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**  Page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***C: Amen.***

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

***C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.***

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

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

**Gathering Hymn *“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”*** Hymn #377

Vs. 1 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!***

Vs. 2 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***

Vs. 3 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***

Vs. 4 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***

Vs. 5 City of God, Easter forever,  
 golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
 river of life, saints and archangels,  
 sing with creation to God the I AM! ***Refrain***

**Greeting** Page 138

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.***

**Kyrie** Page 138

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

***C: Amen.***

**Hymn of Praise** Page 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

Spirit You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Prayer of the Day**

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**First Reading: Acts 3:12-19**

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God’s promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ’s death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus’ name.*

12[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? 13The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. 14But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, 15and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 16And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

17"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. 19Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

**Psalm 4**

1Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**2"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

3Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

**4Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed. The Lord does wonders for the faithful.**

5Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

**6Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

7You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

**8In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure. The Lord does wonders for the faithful.**

**SECOND READING**: **1 John 3:1-7**

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reeal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

1See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. 3And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. 7Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

**Gospel Acclamation**  Page 142

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the

words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL**: **Luke 24:36b-48**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the mind of the disciples to understand him as the Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

36bJesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." 40And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" 42They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43and he took it and ate in their presence.

44Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." 45Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48You are witnesses of these things."

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!”*** Hymn #369

Vs. 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!  
 Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!  
 offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!  
 at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

Vs. 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!  
 sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
 now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Vs. 3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!  
 God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!  
 when contending death and life, Alleluia!  
 met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!

Vs. 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!  
 all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
 now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

**Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

**“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

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.

O God, our holy one, you freed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all the we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loos of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty especially

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died (especially). As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**Peace** Page 138

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

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

**Offering *“We Give Thee but Thine Own” vs. 1*** Hymn #686

We give thee but thine own, what e’er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone a trust, O Lord from thee.

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray, Blessed are you, O God maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, or Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving**  ELW pg. 145

P: The Lord be with you.

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

P: Lift up your hearts.

***C:*** ***We lift them to the Lord.***

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***C:*** ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**Words of Institution**

P: 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

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

**Lord’s Prayer** ELW pg. 145

P: Let us pray as Jesus has taught us.

***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.***

**Communion**

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Sending Hymn *“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”*** Hymn #367

Vs.1. Now all the vault of heav’n resounds

In praise of love that still abounds: “Christ has

triumphed! He is living!” Sing, choirs of

angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory

here: “Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Vs. 2. Eternal is the gift He brings,

Therefore, our heart with rapture sings: “Christ has

triumphed! He is living!” Now still He

comes to give us life And by His presence stills all

strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Vs. 3. O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;

Set heart and will on things above That we

conquer through Your triumph; Grant grace suf-

ficient for life’s day That by our lives we truly

say: “Christ has triumphed! He is living!”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Vs. 4. Adoring praises now we bring

And with the heav’nly blessed sing: “Christ has

triumphed! Alleluia!” Be to the

Father and our Lord, To Spirit blest, most holy

God, All the glory, never ending!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Share the good news!

***C: Thanks be to God!***

**Postlude**