**St. John’s & St. Peter’s**

## Second Sunday of Easter

## ~ April 27, 2025 ~

**Gathering**

 **Prelude**

 **Welcome & Announcements**

**\* Confession & Forgiveness** WOV pg. 10

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

 ***C: Amen.***

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

 ***C: Amen.***

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

 P: Gracious God,

***C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

 ***C: Amen.***

***\** Entrance Hymn *“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!”*** ELW #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!

 **Greeting** WOV pg. 28

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**WOV pg. 28

 P: Kyrie eleison:

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

 P: Christe eleison:

 ***C: Christ, have mercy.***

 P: Kyrie eleison:

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

**\* Hymn of Praise** WOV pg.29

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, 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.

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

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.

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

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

are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

 Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

 Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth,

 And peace to God’s people on earth.

**\* Prayer of the Day**

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body 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.

**Word**

**First Reading: Acts 5:27-32**

*Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.*

27When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, 28saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." 29But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. 30The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. 31God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

**Psalm 118:14-29**

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

**15Shouts 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!"

**17I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD. You are my God, and I will exalt you.**

18The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

**19Open 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."

**21I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation. You are my God, and I will exalt you.**

22The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

**23By 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.

**25Hosanna! O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days! You are my God, and I will exalt you.**

26Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.

**27The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

28You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

**29Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever. You are my God, and I will exalt you.**

**Second Reading**: **Revelation 1:4-8**

*The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.*

4John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, 5and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, 6and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

8I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

**\* Gospel Acclamation** *WOV pg. 31*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

**\* Gospel**: **John 20:19-31**

*The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."*

19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

 24But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

 26A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." 28Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

 30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Sermon**

 **Hymn of the Day “Lift High the Cross”** ELW #660

***Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till***

 ***all the world adore his sacred name.***

Vs. 1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
 our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. ***Refrain***

Vs. 2 All newborn servants of the Crucified
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died. ***Refrain***

Vs. 3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
 as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. ***Refrain***

***Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till***

 ***all the world adore his sacred name.***

Vs. 4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
 praise to the Crucified for victory! ***Refrain***

\* **Apostles’ Creed** *WOV pg. 33* 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 bur ied; he descended into hell.

 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.

**\* The Prayers**

  ***Lord, listen to your children praying,*** *WOV #775*

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world and all who are in need.

Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way especially

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

Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We commend these an all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

 ***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**

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

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

**\* Offering *“Let the vineyards”*** *WOV pg. 35*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

 blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

 that we may be fed with the bread of life.

 Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we

 offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

 and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\* Offering Prayer**

P: Merciful God,

***C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given to us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**\* Great Thanksgiving** *WOV pg. 36*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** *WOV pg. 36*

 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Lord’s Prayer** *WOV pg. 39*

***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 Distribution**

**\*Communion Blessing**

 P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep

 you in his grace.

 ***C: Amen.***

**\* Canticle** *WOV Pg. 40*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell every-

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord rejoice and bear Christ’s holy name.

Send us with your promises, O God,

and lead us forth in joy with shouts

Of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

**\* Prayer** WOV Pg. 41

P:Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

***C: Amen.***

 **Sending**

**\* Blessing** WOV Pg. 41

 P: Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

 **C: Amen.**

**\* Sending Hymn “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”** ELW #366

 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

 Vs. 1 The strife is o’er, the battle done; now is the victor's

 triumph won! Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

 Vs. 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Jesus their legions

 has dispersed. Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

 Vs. 3 The three sad days have quickly sped, Christ rises glorious

 from the dead. All glory to our risen head! Alleluia!

 Vs. 4 Christ closed the yawning gates of hell; the bars from heav'n’s high

 portals fell. Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!

 Vs. 5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded you, from death’s dread free your servants too, that we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!

 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**\* Dismissal**

 P: Go in peace. Share the good news! Alleluia!

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