



April 7, 2024

The Second Sunday of Easter

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

- ♪ He’s risen, He’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death’s prison, th’ incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.
- ♪ The foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan’s domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain whom the evil ones fear.
- ♪ But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,
And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes.
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.
- ♪ O, where is your sting death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden’s door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.
- ♪ Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb Who was slain:
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

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Invocation

This is the day that the LORD has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession and Absolution

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

**But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we
deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.**

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:5-10

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.

Amen.

A Time of Silence

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1a-2

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“This Is the Feast”

~This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

♪ Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

Whose blood set us free to be people of God. ~This is the feast...

♪ Power, riches, wisdom and strength,

And honor, blessing, and glory are His. ~This is the feast...

♪ Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

~This is the feast...

♪ For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. ~This is the feast...

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First Reading

Acts 4:32–35

³²Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

1 John 1:1—2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made

manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“The Strife Is O’er”

~Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

♪ The strife is o’er, the battle done; Now is the victor’s triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

♪ The pow’rs of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

♪ The three sad days have quickly sped, He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

♪ He broke the age-bound chains of hell; The bars from heav’ns high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!

♪ Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, From death’s dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!

~Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 464 -Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum 1695; tr. Francis Pott 1832-1909;
Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina c.1525-94; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

John 20:19–31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when 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 withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, 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 in his hands the

mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, 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; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, 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 believed.”

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

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn *Music: “Onward, Christian Soldiers”, Hymn 662*

“Welcome, Happy Morning”

♪ “Welcome, happy morning!” Age to age shall say;

“Hell today is vanquished, Heav’n is won today!” Christ, once dead, is living,
God forevermore! Him, their true creator, All His works adore.

~”Welcome, happy morning!” Age to age shall say,
“Hell today is vanquished, Heav’n is won today!”

♪ Maker and redeemer, Life and health of all,
God from heav’n beholding Human nature’s fall,
You, the true and only Son of God above,
Died as mortal man to Save us by Your love. ~Welcome...

♪ 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! ~Welcome...

♪ Free the souls long prisoned, Bound with Satan’s chain;
All that once had fallen Raise to life again;
Show Your face in brightness, Shine in ev’ry land
As in Eden’s garden When the world began. ~Welcome....

Lutheran Worship, Hymn 135-Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus 530-609; tr. John Ellerton 1826-93;
Tune: Arthur Sullivan 1842-1900; Setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain.

Proclamation of the Word

“Filling in the Cracks of Doubt”

John 20:19–31

Offering and Musical Offering

Admonition to Communicants *Please Stand*

Lord’s Prayer

Sanctus Hymn *Music: "Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name" Hymn 917* "Isaiah, Mighty Seer"

- ♪ Isaiah, mighty seer in days of old, The Lord of all in spirit did behold
High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,
With robes that filled the temple courts with light.
- ♪ Above the throne were flaming seraphim; Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.
With two they veiled their faces as was right,
With two they humbly hid their feet from sight.
- ♪ And with the other two aloft they soared; One to the other called and praised the Lord:
"Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!"
- ♪ Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth! His glory fills the heavens and the earth!"
The beams and lintels trembled at the cry.
And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 960-Text: Martin Luther 1483-1546; ©1941 Concordia Publishing House;
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Words of Our Lord

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei

Risen and living Lord, Jesus Christ,

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Risen and living Lord, Jesus Christ,

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Risen and living Lord, Jesus Christ,

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated*

"O Sons and Daughters of the King"

- ♪ O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- ♪ That Easter morn, at break of day, The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- ♪ An angel clad in white they see, Who sits and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee." Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- ♪ That night th' apostles met in fear; Among them came their master dear
And said, "My peace be with you here." Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- ♪ When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- ♪ "My pierced side, O Thomas see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- ♪ No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

♪ How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

♪ On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 470-Text: attr. Jean Tisserand d.1494; tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66;
Tune: Melchior Valpius c.1570-1615; Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer and fill us with Your joy!

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“In Christ Alone”

♪ In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

♪ In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

♪ There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

♪ No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;
From life’s first cry to final breath. Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home — Here in the power of Christ I’ll stand.

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Postlude