



April 14, 2024

The Third Sunday of Easter

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free”

♪ Our Paschal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sacrificed, O keep

The feast of freedom gallantly; Let alleluias leap:

~Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Again Sing Alleluia, cry aloud: Alleluia! Amen!

♪ Let all our lives now celebrate The feast; let malice die.

Let love grow strong anew, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie. ~Alleluia!...

♪ Let all our deeds, unanimous, Confess Him as our Lord

Who by the Spirit lives in us, The Father’s living Word. ~Alleluia!....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 473-Text: Martin H. Franzmann 1907-76; Tune: Walter L. Pelz b.1926
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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

Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful, and we have not always lived as Your thankful and joyful people. We have indeed turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us all that is past, blot out our sins, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us steadfastness among all the changes of this world and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *A Time of Silence*

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.

Living Lord, You have commanded us to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations. To fulfill this command, we ask You to clothe us with the power from on high, Your Holy Spirit, that we may carry the amazing message of Your resurrection to the ends of the earth; for You live and reign with the Father 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 3:11–21

¹¹While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

1 John 3:1–7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he

appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

- ♪ Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.
- ♪ God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms he bears them.
- ♪ Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.
- ♪ Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 725 - Text: Carolina Sandell Berg 1832-1903, tr. Ernst W. Olson 1870-1958; © Augsburg Publishing House; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386; Tune: Lofsanger och andeliga wisor, Sweden 1873; Public Domain.

Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Luke 24:36–49

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit 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. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”

♪ Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.

For our Redeemer burst from the tomb, Even from death, dispelling its gloom.

~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. ~Let us...

♪ 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 cloths are lying there!” ~Let us...

♪ “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.” ~Let us...

♪ Christ has arisen; He sets us free; Alleluia, to Him praises be.

Jesus is living! Let us all sing. He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. ~Let us....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 466 -Text: Bernard Kyamanywa b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson b. 1922

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Proclamation of the Word

“Too Good and It’s True”

Luke 24:36–49

Offering and Musical Offering

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!

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

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

2 Corinthians 13:14

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

♪ Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise: Sing to God a hymn of gladness,

Sing to God a hymn of praise; He who on the cross a victim For the world’s salvation bled-

Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

♪ Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat: See the ancient pow’rs of evil

In confusion and retreat; Once He died, and once was buried; Now He lives forevermore,

Jesus Christ, the world’s Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.

♪ Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory be to God on high: Alleluia to the Savior

Who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity!

Alleluia, alleluia! To the triune Majesty!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 477-Text: Christopher Woodsworth 1807-85; rev. Jubilate Hymns Ltd., st.2

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven 1770-1827; adapt. Edward Hodges 1796-1867

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Postlude