



As We Gather Third Sunday of Easter April 14, 2024

Luke reports that at seeing the resurrected Jesus, the disciples “disbelieved for joy” (24:41). The theme of rejoicing is woven throughout the Scriptures. The psalmist exhorts: “Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!” (66:1–2). The prophet Isaiah assures God’s people that they will have cause for rejoicing as he writes: “For the Lord comforts Zion; . . . joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song” (51:3). Paul writes to people who know of the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ on that first Easter day: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). The season of Easter is a time for joyous praise that begins now!

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**Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.
Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.**

A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church to come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

PRELUDE Prelude in C Major – J.S. Bach

WELCOME

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN #477 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts To Heaven” (*Stand for last*)

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 118:24; Romans 6:9; adapt. from Matthew 28:7;*

P This is the day that the LORD has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C death no longer has dominion over Him.

P Christ has risen from the dead.

C God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.

P He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

C He has put all things under His feet.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C 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.

P God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. May He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a victorious life on earth and finally a triumphant life with Him in heaven forever. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and

of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. As well-loved Easter people, rejoice and be glad! You are free indeed!

C Amen.

WORD

INTROIT *Psalm 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 16:11b*

P In Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

C I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

P O LORD my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.

C O Lord, You have brought up my soul from Sheol; You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

P Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name.

C For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P In Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

KYRIE *(Tune: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”)*

**Have mercy on Your people, Lord. Have mercy, Christ, our King.
Renew us by Your mercy, Lord; Accept the prayers we bring.**

(Text: Dorothy Hoyer Scharlemann, 1912–2002 Text: © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110018714)

HYMN OF PRAISE “This Is The Feast” LSB 155

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 of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**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 of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 3:11–21

“While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon’s, astounded. And 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? The 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. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And 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. And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING 1 John 3:1–7

“See 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. Beloved, 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. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. Everyone who

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

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Romans 6:9; Luke 24:32*

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

C Alleluia. **Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL **Luke 24:36–49**

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See 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.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them. Then 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.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY # 464 “The Strife Is O’er, The Battle Done”

SERMON “What We Will Be” 1 John 3:1-7

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Gary & Kathie Hartman, John Kellogg, Deb Thomason

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the whole church, that the message of salvation may joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world and the forgiveness of sins be celebrated around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P [*Petitions...*] Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, we bless You for having placed into our lives faithful Christian people to guide us. We remember those no longer among us on earth, who have completed their earthly races and have won the final victory in Christ. Lead us to follow in their way, that we may rejoice together eternally with saints and angels. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *LSB 192*

C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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.
G **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for, like as a Father, You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son for our salvation. Pour out upon us the gift of Your Spirit, that we may receive Your blessings with true thanksgiving. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

SANCTUS *(Tune: "Holy, Holy, Holy" LSB 507)*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Day and night we join to praise
Your love and majesty.
You alone are holy, worthy, and righteous.
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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LORD'S PRAYER

- G** **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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

AGNUS DEI *(Tune: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee")*

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away—
Our faith increase. Have mercy on us all,
Strengthen us when we fall, Answer our fervent call
And grant us peace.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#480 He's Risen, He's Risen vrs. 1-4 #744 Amazing Grace
#700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng
#463 Christ the Lord Is Risen

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray. Grant that Your Son's body and blood, O Lord, which You have given us to eat and to drink, may abide in us; and let no stain of sin remain in us, whom this pure and holy Sacrament has refreshed; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "Shine On Us" Michael & Deborah Smith

Pastor:(sung) "Lord, let Your light, light of Your face, shine on us...
Let Your grace, grace from Your hand, fall on us."

**Cong:(sung) "Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.
Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life to find our way
In the darkest night. Let Your love come over us."**

Pastor only: Let Your light shine on us.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

+ + + + +

**Altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Roberta Jamieson
in memory of John's birthday.**

Reader Today: Jan Aslin

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. April 15 2:00 p.m. Church Council
Tues. April 16 11:00 a.m. Preschool Chapel
Wed. April 17 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
Thur. April 18 10:30 a.m. Grief Group
Thur. April 18 11:00 a.m. Jesus Time
Sunday Apr. 21 8:30 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Gary & Kathie Hartman, John Kellogg, Deb Thomason! We are blessed to have you here! We look forward to continued worship and service to our Lord together. Join us after worship in the fellowship hall to meet and greet!

COUNTRY GOSPEL MUSIC in worship next **Sunday, April 21st 10 a.m.**! This will be a non-Communion service with a bonus: inspirational Gospel music with a touch of bluegrass sound! Lonnie and Gayle Malwitz of the Highview Country Music Singers from Farmington, MN are our guest musicians. Here's an opportunity to invite your neighbors and friends for a little different twist!

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CURT BAKKE is planned for **Saturday, April 27th 1-3 p.m. at MLC.** On Dec. 7, 2023 at age 83, God blessed Curt with a holy death and took him home to rest in the arms of Jesus to await the resurrection of the dead.

TABLE CLOTHS FOR SALE LWA has some tablecloths for sale. They fit the long tables the church recently sold. They are 60" x 120". They are brand new, never used. We have white and dark green. They are \$10.00. Please see a member of LWA if you would like to purchase.

WANT TO PUT NAMES WITH FACES?! Now's your chance! Get your picture taken for our **new wall directory in the fellowship hall**: **"Our Church Family"**! **Sign up** at the "sign-ups" table and pick your day. Your picture will be taken here at church on a Sunday when you are present before or after church. Pictures will be taken in the fellowship hall and posted with just your name(s). Pictures will be small (approx. 3"x4"). If you are a "snow bird" who will be leaving soon, please sign up asap! If you have any **questions, contact coordinator Christine Constien, 815-409-2035 or constien.christine@gmail.com.**

BIRTHDAYS

Apr. 14 CC Sersland

Apr. 17 Jessica Ethington

Apr. 17 Gary Smith

Apr. 19 Winnie Ethington

Apr. 21 Jan Aslin

Apr. 23 JoAnn Arney

Apr. 23 Jim Sims

Apr. 24 DeAnn West

Apr. 29 Lois Beadles

Apr. 29 Tim Hintz

Apr. 29 Gail Snow

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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