

# First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**Third Sunday of Easter**

**April 14, 2024**

**9:30 am**

# SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

## APRIL 14, 2024

*The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.*

### **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.

### **Second Reading: 1 John 1:3-7**

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 reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

### **Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48**

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

## **He is risen! Alleluia!**

### **Prelude**

## **\*Community Welcome & Announcements**

### **\*Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.  
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep  
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.  
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea  
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## \*The Gathering Song

ELW 361

### The Day of Resurrection!



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in,  
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;  
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!  
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

## \*The Pastoral Greeting

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

A: **And also with you.**

**\*The Song of Praise**      *This is the Feast of Victory*      *WOV Setting 4*



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. ☐ Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: ☐ Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and



might to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men

## \*The Song of Praise *Continued*



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



I  
II For the Lamb, the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. A - men

## \*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

P: 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.

A: Amen.

## The First Reading

## Acts 3:12-19

<sup>12</sup>[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?<sup>13</sup>The 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. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And 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.

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

R: Word of God; Word of Life.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 4

*(read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>Answer 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.

<sup>2</sup>**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

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

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

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

<sup>8</sup>**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

## The Second Reading

## 1 John 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup>See 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. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, 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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

R: Word of God; Word of Life.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

## \*The Announcement of the Gospel Reading

## WOV Setting 4



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



P: The Holy Gospel according to St John.

A: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **\*The Reading of the Gospel**

**John 20:19-31**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look 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.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

A: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

*We observe a brief silence for reflection*

## Around You, O Lord Jesus



1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still  
 2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;  
 3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath



to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.  
 your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.  
 we will be true and nev - er—in joy, in grief, in death—



You say to us so lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! This is my  
 It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your  
 de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple



bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!"  
 bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.  
 dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite

Music: O JESU, ÅN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569

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## **\*The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

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.

*A brief silence.*

O God our holy one, you feed 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 that 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 loss 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 (*ministry context may be named*). Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

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.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **\*The Peace**

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

**A: And also with you.**

P: Let us offer one another the sign of the Risen Christ's peace.

*As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we welcome all because God welcomes all, and we recognize that our differences are gifts to our communal life.*

AR-OK Synod RIC Statement

## **\*The Offering Prayer**

P: Risen One,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**A: Amen.**

*The offering plates will be available on the table in the Narthex.  
Please place your donations there, as you leave.*

## **\*The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places  
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
 through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
 who on this day overcame death and the grave  
 and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy**

*WOV Setting 4*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **\*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.

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

## **\*Lord's Prayer**

**P:** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**A:** **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 Celebration of Holy Communion**

*Please remain standing during the singing of the Lamb of God.*

**\*Lamb of God**

*WOV Setting 4*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.  
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.  
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

### The Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
 Come and eat at God's table.

*Please come to the communion rail and kneel (or stand). We will receive communion by intinction. Receive the bread, dip into the wine or white grape juice, then take and eat.*

### The Communion Music

ELW 496



# One Bread, One Body

*Refrain*



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,



*Refrain*

wom - an or man, no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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## \*The Communion Blessing

P: May the nourishment of the body and blood of our Savior  
Jesus Christ give you renewed strength and life.

A: **Amen.**

### **\*The Prayer After Communion**

P: Shepherd God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.

A: **Amen.**

### **\*Community Updates**

### **\*The Blessing**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.

A: **Amen.**

### **\*The Sending Song**

*ELW 391*

# This Joyful Eastertide



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son  
3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has  
slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall  
riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.  
wake the dead in num - - ber.  
pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

## *Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934

Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

## **\*Dismissal**

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

A: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **Postlude**

### **Worship Assistants**

Reader & Communion Assistant: *Sara Brightwell*

Crucifer: *Bruce Torkelson*      Usher(s): *Bruce & Nat Torkelson*

Presiding Minister: *Pr. Josh Johnson*

Music: *Gail Flack*

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