## 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

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 Day of Resurrection!



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



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## \*The Song of Praise Continued



## \*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



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

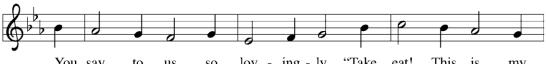
## Around You, O Lord Jesus



- 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 lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! is to us so my 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



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite Music: O JESU, ÄN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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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.

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.

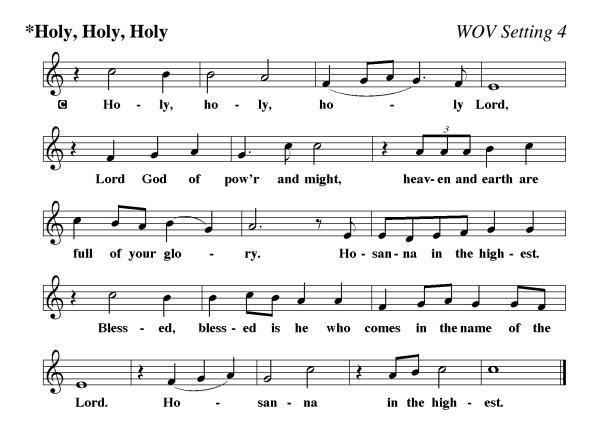
A: We lift them to the Lord.

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:



#### \*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.

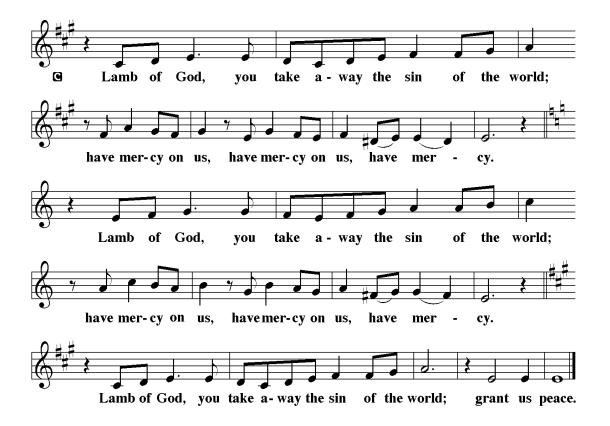
## \*Lord's Prayer

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.



#### 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



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: Shepherding 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



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

Presiding Minister: Pr. Josh Johnson

Music: Gail Flack

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