



“Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’”

~ John 20: 27-28

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Second Sunday of Easter – April 12, 2026**

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshipping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an * and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:*



*You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Guest information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

*As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.*

*A **playroom** is available downstairs for children who need a break from the worship service. This room is by the elevator on the lower level. An adult must remain with the child. Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.*

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*GREETING

Praise the Lord!

I thank the Lord with all my heart in the company of this congregation. (Ps 111:1)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Great are God's works, treasured by all who desire them.

God's deeds are majestic and glorious. God's righteousness stands forever. (Ps 111:2-3)

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps 118:24)

*GATHERING HYMN *We Walk by Faith* (ELW 635)



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Creating God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew and gentle rain.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Redeeming God, Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Sustaining God, Holy Spirit, you are the breath of life.

Who calls us, gathers us, and declares us holy.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Break down barriers that divide us. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

People of God, in your baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew, called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Give us new life, shaped by your grace and emboldened to witness to your resurrection.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, We give you thanks, O God for in these waters, you promise welcome, forgiveness, and life everlasting, and you claim us as your beloved children.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen .


Let us sing for joy at God's victory over death!

*THIS IS THE FEAST


Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be




peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain




hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of




vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and




join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **Almighty God, you are strength for those who believe and hope for those who doubt, give us, who have not seen, faith in you that we may receive the blessing of Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Exodus 15:1-11, 19-21

After God rescued Israelites from Egypt by parting the waters of the sea before them, and closing the waters upon the Egyptians, Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites sang praises to God, dancing, celebrating, and thanking God for their freedom.

A reading from Exodus.

¹ [Then] Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

“I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

² The Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him; my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

³ The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name.

⁴ Pharaoh’s chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

⁵ The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone.

⁶ Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power— your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy.

⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.

⁸ At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;
the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

⁹ The enemy said, ‘I will pursue; I will overtake;
I will divide the spoil; my desire shall have its fill of them.
I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.’

¹⁰ You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹ Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?”

¹⁹ When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the Lord brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron’s sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹ And Miriam sang to them:

“Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

In what ways does God offer you life in the face of fear and uncertainty? How do you respond?

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

A reading from 1 Peter.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

What does it mean to you to have a new birth and a living hope in your current life through the resurrection of Jesus Christ?

Silence for reflection

*GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL (ELW 172)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

***GOSPEL READING: John 20:19-31**

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

What do you do with your own doubts or questions of faith and theology?

Silence for reflection

***GOSPEL RESPONSE (ELW 164)**

*The cantor will sing the leader part,
the congregation is invited to join in the "all" parts and all group parts.*

Leader




Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

All




Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Leader




To God be glo-ry for-ev - er!

All




To God be glo-ry for-ev - er!

Leader




Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader




Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1



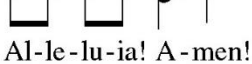
Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2



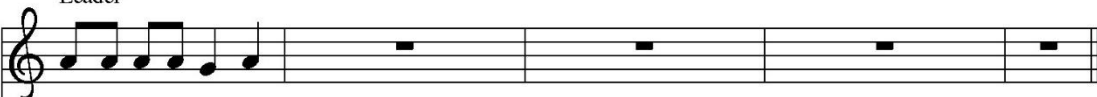
Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2




Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!


Group 1, 2, 3




Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!



Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Touch that Soothes and Heals: See My Hands and Feet (ACS 939)*
(Blue prayer cards are collected)



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
 2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it
 3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's
 4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
 ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and
 peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of
 wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
 shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
 kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.
 tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

Refrain



"See my hands and feet," said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. "Be my hands and feet," said Je - sus, "live as



ones I died to save."

***NICENE CREED**

Let us confess our faith in the words of 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.

**Or, "who proceeds from the father." The phrase "and the son" is a later addition to the creed.*

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence for reflection* Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way especially Geneva, Cherry, Henry, Harry, Sally, Debi, Karen, Nan, Beverly, those on our prayer list and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant, especially Anne. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Living God, we carry in our hearts joys and concerns known only to you. We offer the prayer we bring into this space on this day (*blue prayer cards are read*) and all the prayers we do not yet have the words to speak. Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love. Use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcome to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING

You are invited to share a gift to support the ministries of this congregation during the following song. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Prayer requests, connection cards, and communion records are also collected at this time.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen* (ELW 548)

**Rise on verse 4*



1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,
2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low
3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture
4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;



from this meal of love and grace;
af - ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;
God has called us to re - ceive;
cour - age be our dai - ly breath;



may we through such love en - vi - sion
bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed
pres - ent by God's lov - ing nur - ture,
mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion



whose we are, and whose, our praise.
to re - lease and to con - sole.
Spir - it - ed then let us live.
from this day and un - to death.



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



God, the won - der of our days.
Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
Spir - it, grace by whom we live.
Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene, Peter, and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with the church of all times and places
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join the unending hymn:



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You give us the gift of faith, surrounding us with such a great cloud of witnesses who accompany us on our baptismal journey, strengthening and nourishing us by word and sacrament.

You come into the space of the locked room and fearful hearts, offering a word of peace and grace. We learn from Thomas and all the disciples to hear your Word. **Amen.**

You meet the disciples along the road, making yourself known in the breaking of the bread. We learn from them to share together in the Lord's Supper. **Amen.**

You are the Good Shepherd who calls us by name and gathers us together. We learn to live among your faithful people in your care. **Amen.**

You emboldened Stephen to care for those in need, even at the expense of his own safety. We learn from Stephen to serve all people following in the example of Christ, striving for justice and peace in all the earth. **Amen.**

You dwelt in Paul as the Spirit of truth as he brought your Gospel to new ears. We learn from Paul to proclaim your Good News in Christ through word and deed. **Amen.**

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 mystery of faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Alleluia! Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

**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**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

“God is famous for wondrous works. The Lord is full of mercy and compassion. God gives food to those who honor God. God remembers the covenant forever.” (Ps 111:4-5)

Every one of us are invited to God’s table just as we are. For here we are gathered with the cloud of witnesses of all times and places, here we are fed with the body and blood of Christ, here we know God’s overflowing grace for us. Now come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. Taste and see that the Lord is good. This meal is for you. **Thanks be to God!**

Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God’s sacramental grace. In response to Jesus’ invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God* (ELW 198)



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

COMMUNION HYMN *The Peace of the Lord* (ELW 646)



1 *La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la*
 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the



paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the



ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -
 Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's
 Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -
 Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to



rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya
 chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for
 ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right
 share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not



mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá.
 me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.
 now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.
 live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

COMMUNION HYMN *Peace, to Sooth Our Bitter Woes* (ELW 381)



1 Peace, to soothe our bit - ter woes, God in Christ on us be - stows;
2 Peace with - in the church still dwells in our wel - comes and fare - wells;



Je - sus bought our peace with God with his ho - ly, pre - cious blood;
and through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r peace sur - rounds our dy - ing hour.



peace in him for sin - ners found is the gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
Peace be with you, full and free, now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

COMMUNION HYMN *Be Not Afraid* (ELW 388)

Musical notation for the first system of the hymn, including a treble clef, a bass clef, and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The system contains two staves with chords and a vocal melody line.

Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia!

Musical notation for the second system of the hymn, continuing the two-staff format with chords and a vocal melody line.

Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia!

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace.
Amen

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise* (ELW 207)**



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

“God sent redemption for God’s people; God commanded that the covenant last forever. Holy and awesome is God’s name!” (Ps 111: 9) Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

Alleluia! Amen.

***SENDING SONG *I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me* (ELW 860)**



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

***DISMISSAL**

The Lord is my strength and song and has become my salvation.

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

By the Lord this has been done.

It is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118:14, 17, 23-24)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go forth in joy to love and serve the risen Christ!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Assisting in worship today:

Assisting Minister: Casey S.

Young Reader: Abby C

Acolyte: Josie W.

Offering: Lydia M. and Abby.

Attendance last week: 120 + 2 zoom

Notes for the day's texts:

Thomas is not the only one missing from the assembly the Sunday after Easter Sunday. We are not told why Thomas is missing, but we do know why plenty of other folks are absent from the assembly: vacations, traveling, spring break for the kids.

Thomas is criticized for doubting, but he asks for nothing more than the same experience of the risen Christ the rest of the disciples had. By the grace of God, Jesus returns a second time and offers his body as living proof to Thomas. In the presence of Jesus, Thomas discovers he did not need the proof he demanded. Thomas' story is our story. We are not always where we need to be. Sometimes we even find ourselves in places we should not be at all. But Jesus comes to us, seeking us out and giving us the gift of faith. Thomas is not criticized, he is not condemned. Instead Jesus loves Thomas back into a relationship and shows the disciples what the words "Peace be with you" mean when lived out.

The resurrection promise can be heard through today's reading from 1 Peter. Jesus will triumph over death. We remember Jesus' death on the cross, but what of the little ways we die? The loss of relationships, the ending of friendships, the pain of being alone and left out, the despair of losing a job, the doubt that comes on the heels of a negative diagnosis. Jesus comes to bring a holy peace and resurrection into the world in these times as well. This Sunday is an opportunity to proclaim the power of the resurrection and the grace of God, who welcomes Thomas with open arms.

Today's Music

We Walk by Faith. Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt., Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Public Domain / GIA Publications, Inc.

Touch that Soothes and Heals. Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953, Music: Gregg DeMey, b. 1972. GIA Publications, Inc. / Faith Alive Resources.

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen. Text: Susan Palo Chervien, 1953-2021, Music: Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958. Augsburg Fortress.

The Peace of the Lord. Text: Anders Ruuth; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923, Music: Anders Ruuth. Lutheran World Federation / Augsburg Fortress.

Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes. Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860-1943, alt., Music: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-1887. Public Domain.

Be Not Afraid. Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community, Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. GIA Publications, Inc.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise. Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927. Augsburg Fortress.

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me. Praise, Thanksgiving (ELW); Struggle, Faith (TFF); Easter (WOV); Forgiving, Healing (LS). Augsburg Fortress / Public Domain.

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Next Week's Readings

Isaiah 51:1-6 *The enduring foundation of God's salvation*

Psalms 34:1-10 *Those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)*

1 Peter 1:17-23 *Born anew through the living word of God*

Luke 24:13-35 *Eating with the risen Christ*