



“... Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoices when they saw the Lord”

- John 20:19-20

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Second Sunday of Easter – April 7, 2024**

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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. **Visitor 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. 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.

***GATHERING SONG *Be Not Afraid* (ELW 388)**

sing three times

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

The first system of musical notation for the song 'Be Not Afraid'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics: 'Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!'. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

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

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***GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***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.

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, you created us in your image
and placed us in a well-watered garden.**

In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.

**When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.**

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.**

In your baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

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

**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.**

Alleluia!

*KYRIE


Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,


Refrain




let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

*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, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

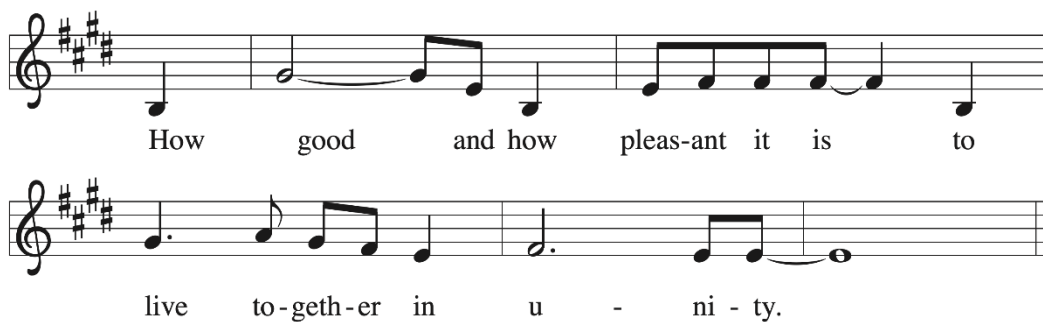
A reading from Acts.

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133



¹How good and how pleas-^l ant it is,
when kindred live togeth-^l er in unity!

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up-^l on the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar^l of his robe. R**

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the^l hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life for-^l evermore. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2

A reading from 1 John.

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

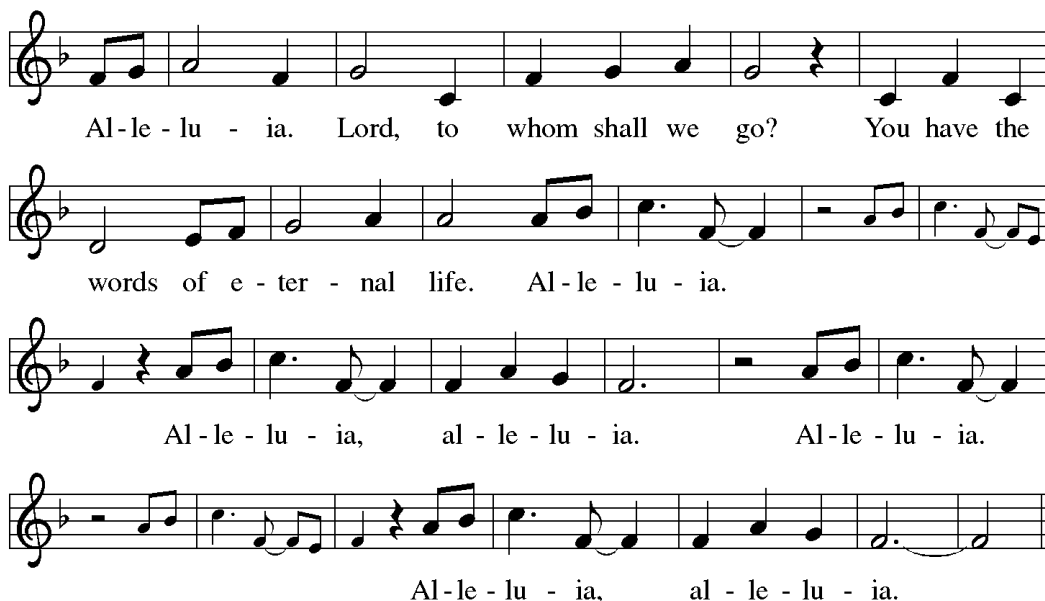
⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶A 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come 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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY Alleluia! Christ is Arisen (ELW 375)**

(Blue prayer cards are collected)

Refrain/Estrillo

¡A - le - lu - ya! Cris - to re - su - ci - tó
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is a - ris - en.

de ma - dru - ga - da el do - min - go.
Bright is the dawn-ing of the Lord's day.

1 Fue - ron mu - jer - es al se - pul - cro. La pie - dra, un
1 Run, faith - ful wom - en, to the grave - side. Mar - vel, the
2 Rise, Mag - da - len - a, from your weep - ing; Christ stands be -
3 Gath - er, dis - ci - ples, in the eve - ning; sud - den - ly
4 Thom - as, where were you on that eve - ning? "I'll not be -

án - gel re - mo - vió; les di - jo: "Ha re - su - ci -
stone is rolled a - way! Hear from the an - gel, "He is
fore your ver - y eyes. Quick - ly re - turn to the dis -
Christ your Lord ap - pears. "Look, it is I, your wound - ed
lieve un - less I see." Christ comes a - gain, and ev - 'ry

Refrain/Estrillo

ta - do." Y al ir - se, les sa - lió el Se - ñor.
ris - en." Christ goes be - fore you all the way.
ci - ples; bear the good news: "He is a - live."
Sav - ior. Peace be with you, and do not fear."
Lord's day: "Touch me and see; have faith in me."

***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.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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.*

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us. Breathe on us, Holy Spirit, that faith is renewed, and we witness to your love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may live in fear. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain especially Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Katie, Debi, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, we carry in our hearts joys and concerns known only to you. We bring to you all that weighs us down and celebrate in you all that lifts us up. 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; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN *O Sons and Daughters, let Us Sing (ELW 386) vs. 5-8*

Rise on verse 8



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



After the final stanza



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

- | | |
|--|--|
| 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard,
that they had seen the risen Lord,
he doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia! | 7 No longer Thomas then denied;
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
Alleluia! |
| 6 "My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
and look upon my hands, my feet;
not faithless, but believing be."
Alleluia! | 8 How blest are they who have not seen,
and yet whose faith has constant been,
for they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia! |

*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, strengthened by the gifts of your meal of grace, 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 and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

Alleluia!

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Alleluia!

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

Alleluia!

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.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God*

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

COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together* (ELW 471)



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

***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**

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.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

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

Alleluia! Amen.

***SENDING SONG *We Have Seen the Lord* (ELW 869)**

(We have seen the Lord.)

We have seen the Lord. (God is mighty.)

We have seen the Lord. (God is powerful.)

We have seen the Lord,

God with us, Jesus Christ. (We have seen the Lord.)

(We have seen the Lord.)

We have seen the Lord. (God is lowly.)

We have seen the Lord. (God is merciful.)

We have seen the Lord,

God with us, Jesus Christ. (We have seen the Lord.)

(We have seen the Lord.)

We have seen the Lord. (God is gracious.)

We have seen the Lord. (God is wonderful.)

We have seen the Lord,

God with us, Jesus Christ. (We have seen the Lord.)

***DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Assisting in worship today:

Assisting Minister: David D.

Acolyte: Anna K.

Ushers: Bob D.

Greeters: Sherry D.

Offering: Jules K. & Abigail C.

Attendance last week: 96 +7 zoom

Notes for the day's texts:

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

Today's Music

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

Alleluia! Christ is Arisen. Text: Luis Bojos, b. 1937; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951, Music: Luis Bojos. Luis Bojos.

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing. Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.,

Music: French tune, 15th cent. Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

Let Us Break Bread Together. Text: African American spiritual, Music: African American spiritual.

Public Domain.

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

We Have Seen the Lord. Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Jeff Sartain, b. 1962, Music: Tanzanian tune; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954.

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Next Week's Readings

Acts 3:12-19 *Health and forgiveness through the risen Jesus*

Psalm 4 *The Lord does wonders for the faithful*

1 John 3:1-7 *The revealing of the children of God*

Luke 24:36b-48 *Eating with the risen Christ*