

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Third Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024
Service of Holy Communion**

PRELUDE**GATHERING****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. Your ark carried your creation through the flood and 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!

GATHERING SONG

"The Day of Resurrection!"

#361

1. **The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the passover of gladness, the passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**
2. **Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and list'ning to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the glad refrain.**
3. **Now let the heav'ns be joyful, let earth its song begin,
the round world keep high triumph and all that is there-in.
Let all things, seen and unseen, their notes of gladness blend;
for Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**
4. **All praise to God the Father, all praise to Christ the Son,
all praise to God the Spirit, eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number fall down before the throne,
and honor, pow'r and glory ascribe to God alone!**

GREETING

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This Is the Feast"

p.140-141

Refrain: **This is the feast of victory for our God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain:***

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing and glory are his. *Refrain:***

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain:***

**For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign. Alleluia! *Refrain:***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. 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. Amen.

WORD**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****FIRST READING**

Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he 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? 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. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 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. "And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 4 (5:30/8:00)

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many who way, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!"

You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

SR. CHOIR ANTHEM (10:30)

"Death, Where Is Your Sting?"

by Larson

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

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. 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. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p.142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 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.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. 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.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 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, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ann Marshall

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Zion, Haste"

#668

1. **O Zion, haste, your mission high fulfilling, to tell to all the world that God is light; that he who made all nations is not willing one soul should perish, lost in shades of night. Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.**
2. **Publish to ev'ry people, tongue, and nation that God, in whom they live and move, is love; tell how he stooped to save his lost creation and died on earth that we might live above. Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.**
3. **He comes again! O Zion, ere you meet him, make known to ev'ry heart his saving grace; let none whom he has ransomed fail to greet him, through your neglect, unfit to see his face. Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.**

NICENE CREED

With the whole church let us confess our faith:

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 worshipped 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.

(brief silence)

Petitions end: Lord in your mercy, **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.

PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS**MEAL****OFFERING SONG**

"Come to the Table of Mercy"

#481

**Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.
 All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.
 Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand.
 Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. 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. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(sung)*

p.144

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...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

p.144

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**LORD'S PRAYER**

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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**COMMUNION HYMN**

"Lamb of God"

p. 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant - - - us peace.

"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

#470

1. Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.
2. As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.
3. All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

#674

1. Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound.
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound.
2. Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound.
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound.
3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound.
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound.

TABLE BLESSING

At the conclusion: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion: Amen

SENDING

BENEDICTION

At the conclusion: Amen.

SENDING SONG

"This Joyful Eastertide"

#391

1. This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.
2. My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
till trump from east and west shall wake the dead in number.
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.

3. **Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE