

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023

9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

Masks are optional but available in the narthex for anyone who feels more comfortable taking that precaution for themselves or on behalf of others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

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

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew. **C: Amen.**

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C: Amen.

*GREETING

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory Be to God in Heaven

S204a



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C:** **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd].

²²“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

L: The word of the Lord. *C:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 16 (*read responsively*)

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. *C:* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

Peggy Steinfurth

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

ELW # 373

***NICENE CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Nicene Creed.

***C:* 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 THE CHURCH**

A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A: God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: As you breathed your Spirit into the disciples, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us to counter the effects of pollution and destruction. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: You prepared the disciples for their ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership reflects your love. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Provide trusting and safe relationships for all ages, to nurture our connection to you and one another. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who taught us to pray:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

P: The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **C: Amen.**

***SENDING SONG**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!

ELW # 369

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in honor of our Military people by Dennis and Margie Smith.

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from Clover Creek Church of the Brethren will be assisting with the regular volunteers to distribute food on April 20. The Pantry will be open from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and other times by appointment.

Following are the most needed food items for April: Cereal, Ravioli, Mashed Potatoes, Kidney Beans, Canned Peaches. These or any other donations can be placed in the basket marked "Food Pantry" at church. Many Thanks! *Linda Smith*

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – No office hours.

Lori Tremmel – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today – Worship Service with Youth in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Monday – Scouts, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.

Saturday - 5 K Run/Walk at Camp or at Home

Sunday – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service with Mr. Robin Abrol & Rev. Lesli Hand from
On Eagle's Wings in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Carl Alexy, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenburg, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Melissa Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Marlene Marquardt, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Paul Ruth, Cindy Thomas, John Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesli Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Nathan Smith (Germany).

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Worship Leader – Peggy Steinfurth

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Lectors – Youth

Our Acolyte – Calleigh Wright

Our Assisting Minister – Youth

Our Altar Guild – Jackie Lightner, Tina Harclerode, Jane Fagans

Our Usher – Paul Decker

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Second Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Youth & Camping"

At the Special Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, April 2nd, the congregation voted to accept a bid from Garaventa Lift USA for \$25,250, plus incidental related costs, to upgrade the chairlift between the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall levels of the building to a platform lift that is capable of accommodating a wheelchair.

This project is made possible through individual members' designated gifts for the chairlift and the generosity of Mr. Fred Smith, whose bequest to St. Matthew was designated for the Building Fund.

***OPENING HYMN**

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW # 389



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" All on earth with an - gels say;
2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious king! Where, O death, is now your sting?



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns; and earth, re - ply.
Lo! The sun's e - clipse is o'er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for - bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Once he died our souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! 6 King of glory, soul of bliss,
Praise to thee by both be giv'n. everlasting life is this:
Thee we greet triumphant now: thee to know, thy pow'r to prove,
hail, the resurrection, thou! thus to sing, and thus to love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS, Pierre de Corbeil, d. 1222

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***SENDING SONG**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!

ELW # 369



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807-1882, alt.
Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781-1821