

Worship in the Home

Third Sunday of Easter, Year B

April 18, 2021



In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ.

While you cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

******You are invited to join Adult Sunday School from 9AM to 9:25AM
on Zoom******

Prelude

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for the waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen

ELW # 373



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

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

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

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

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.**

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; the Lord will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?” Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

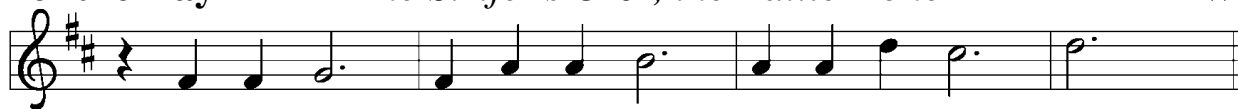
⁴⁴Then Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

Homily

Hymn of the Day

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

ELW # 366



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious
4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!
por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

After the final stanza



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909

Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525–1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Reflection

The author of Acts, in seeking to appeal to the Gentiles and exonerate Pilate, has Peter blaming “the Israelites” for the death of Jesus. Peter here does not even remember his own guilt. The Christian tradition has rather seen the death of Jesus, however it came about, as bringing the possibility of repentance and forgiveness to us all. The scriptures are closed to us when we use them to judge others for their sins, forgetting our own. But the risen Christ in the power of the Spirit opens our minds to understand the scriptures. In them, when they are truly opened, we see his wounds and encounter his resurrection. In them we see the risen Jesus eat a fish, that representation of the chaos of the sea — of death — made into life-giving food. Every Sunday, the scriptures are opened for us. And every Sunday, when we are able to gather, Christ gives us life in his meal. When we cannot gather, we eat his body and blood in the scriptures themselves, by faith.

In word and sacrament we meet the author of life and are given forgiveness, made children of God, and sent with words of witness and forgiveness to others.

Prayers of Intercession

On this third Sunday of Easter, we pray for all in any need.

Holy and righteous God, for the church, we pray: for our own congregation, for the churches of all our neighbors and around the globe, and especially for Christians in Nigeria and wherever martyrdoms threaten. O God our Savior, bless your people, and have mercy on us. **Hear us when we call.**

For the earth we pray: for the well-being of terrains, plants, and animals wild and tame, for the birds, especially songbirds whose numbers are decreasing, and for this week's Earth Day, that good will come from the worldwide observance. O God our Creator, restore your handiwork, and have mercy on us. **Hear us when we call.**

For peace we pray: for the end of warfare, terrorism, and cruelty to the poor, for a respectful treatment of refugees and all who are incarcerated, and especially for Northern Ireland and other places of civil unrest. O God our Sovereign, bring peace to the nations, and have mercy on us. **Hear us when we call.**

For justice we pray: for the liberation of all who are oppressed, for an end to ethnic and economic prejudice, and especially for all court cases in this and every land. O God our Refuge, protect the vulnerable, and have mercy on us. **Hear us when we call.**

For all who are sick and suffering, for those who have no access to the coronavirus vaccines, for the children afflicted with the virus variants, for everyone who fears receiving medical advice and assistance, for those who live with chronic pain, for those whose pain is known only to you, and especially for those we name here before you. . . .O God our Caregiver, heal the sick, and have mercy on us. **Hear us when we call.**

For ourselves, when we believe and when we doubt, and for our dear ones for whom we pray: O God our Comforter, hold us close, and have mercy on us. **Hear us when we call.**

We remember before you all the witnesses of the resurrection, the saints of old, those who have died by violence or by the coronavirus, and especially our relatives and friends. O God our Resurrection, give us life now and forever, and have mercy on us. **Hear us when we call.**

Receive these prayers into your heart of mercy for the sake of the holy and righteous one, Jesus Christ, or wondrous Redeemer, who taught us to pray:

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.

Sending Hymn

Thine Is the Glory

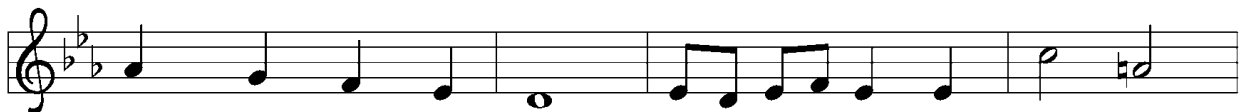
ELW # 376



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Benediction

May our glorious God grant us a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen. **Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Please join us for fellowship on Zoom immediately following the postlude.

596-621-1441 passcode 8675309

Schedule:

Monday, Friday 9AM Hymn Devotion

Tuesday & Thursday 9AM Morning Prayer & 9PM Night Prayer

Wednesday 7PM Holden Evening Prayer

Office Hours

Pastor Traci: Monday & Wednesday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Lori: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Serving God and Us

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist/Organist – Dr. Adam Smith/Mary Nelson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Bill Brown

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Youth & Camping”

Congratulations and blessings go to Dave and Linda Lehman who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary yesterday. Dave and Linda were married St. Matthew Lutheran Church on April 17, 1971.

THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund had good earnings year in 2020 and as a result has \$5,437 for distribution in 2021. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting David Lehman, chairperson or committee members Allen Kuster, Laura Orczeck, Beth Garner or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 30, 2021. Funds will be distributed in June 2021. You can email Dave at: **dlehman1@atlanticbb.net**

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

USE OF THE FUND

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines.

1. Youth of all ages - scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs and education.
2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members and the ELCA.
3. Worship and music - support for the worship of St. Matthew.
4. Capital Projects - major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Clyde Claycomb, Donna Gearhart, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, Audrey Hite, Ruth Johnson, Janet Kreider, Harry Partner, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Cindy Barnes, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, Doris Henderson, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Jenny, Anna Klepser, Janet Kreider, Darren Kreutzer, Karrie McCall & Family, Chuck McGeary, Kristen Malloy, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Elaine Ormsby, Kevin Ormsby, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Sheena, Rhyvan, Zachary & Makaila Tremmel, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Specialist Training in the Army: Nathan Smith

Readings for the Week:

Monday (commemoration of Olavus Petri, priest, 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, 1573; renewers of the church) Psalm 150. **Tuesday** 2 John 1-6. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, 1109) Proverbs 9:1-6. **Thursday** Psalm 23. **Friday** (commemoration of Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, 1960). **Saturday** Mark 10:11-18. **Fourth Sunday of Easter** (Mark, Evangelist) Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18.

Reflection text: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw.

Portions from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, All Creation Sings*, and sundaysandseasons.com © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Readings from *Readings for the Assembly* © 1995, 1996, 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Citations from the Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Scripture quotations from NRSV Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, adapted and edited with permission by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Rams.