

# Worship in the Home

## Third Sunday of Easter

### April 26, 2020



*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.*

#### Prelude

#### Opening Hymn

*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!*

*ELW # 377*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

## **Prayer of the Day**

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

### **Psalm: 116:1-4, 12-19**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>12</sup>How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people.

<sup>15</sup>**Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup>**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people,

<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of the LORD’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

### **Gospel: Luke 24:13-35**

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene, two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup>He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

<sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?"

<sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

## Reflection

The Psalm speaks of the "cords of death" and the "anguish of the grave." It is as if all the world now is bound by such cords, held in such anguish. And, unlike the disciples at Emmaus, we cannot now see the risen Lord in the breaking of the bread of the holy communion nor can we run to other gatherings of people to tell them what we have seen. But the risen Christ opens to us the word of the scriptures. We recognize him there. We have been born anew by his word and received the gift of the Holy Spirit by baptism in Christ's name. The risen one stays with us in our homes, is present at our meals, and blesses us in our worst distresses. And in the future we will again "lift the cup of salvation" together as we did in the past. We will again run to tell others. The promise is for us all.

## Prayers of Intercession

Separated in our residences but united by God's promises of restoration, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need.

Come to the church, so burdened by heartache. Give us faith to know your loving presence among us. Open the scriptures to us, and nourish us with the bread of your word. Direct our clergy and church leaders, in their novel and difficult tasks. Bind into one all denominations around the globe in hope for the renewal of all things, and uphold the work of the World Council of Churches. O God our merciful Savior, **give ear to us.**

Come to the earth. Bless all the natural world. Renew landscapes, cleanse the waters, and protect the animals. Save your people especially at this time from destructive storms and floods. Keep viruses in check, for the sake of your beloved humans. O God our benevolent Gardener, **give ear to us.**

Come to the nations. Preserve all peoples from war and violence. Guide the leaders of nations, our president, our governors, and our legislators toward wise decisions in struggling against the virus and in reviving the economy. Teach all peoples how to share limited resources with those in greater need. Guide the work of the United Nations during this unprecedented situation. O God our mighty Peacemaker, **give ear to us.**

Come to all who suffer from the virus. Comfort the mourners, heal the sick, sustain medical workers. Empower those researchers who are seeking a vaccine. Stay with us, and accompany all those who are isolated or afraid. Give to those with prior ailments and chronic disease their necessary medical care. Especially we pray for those we name here before you: O God our compassionate Healer, **give ear to us.**

As at Emmaus you joined the meal of the disciples, so come also to our tables. Uphold farmers, ranchers, migrant workers, and all who produce, package and market our food. Guard the health of those who work at grocery stores. Bless the efforts of local food banks. Enable us to feed the children who have relied on food given out at school. Show us how to feed the people living in refugee camps and nations experiencing famine and drought. O God our generous Provider, **give ear to us.**

Walk with us on our roadways, whether marked with sorrow or joy, and receive our petitions, both sad lament or fervent praise. O God our beloved Companion, **give ear to us.**

Accept our praises for those who have died in the faith, including those stricken with the virus and the medical workers who died healing others. Accompany us now, as you did them, until at the end of all things we feast at your table with all the saints in glory. O God, the Mystery of Life, **give ear to us.**

With bold confidence in your providence, O holy and gracious God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our saving Lord 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.**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. The God of all grace ☩ bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Join us on Zoom for Hymn #376 and Fellowship  
Contact info: ID 596-621-1441 Password 8675309**

# 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



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!

### Worship Schedule

Monday: Hymn Devotions, 9AM & 9PM (pre-recorded)

Tuesday-Friday: Morning Prayer, 9AM

Tuesday-Friday: Kids' Devotions & Otto Sings Camp's Greatest Hits, Midday

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: Night Prayer, 9PM

Wednesday: Holden Evening Prayer, 7PM

Tuesday: Camp Sequanota Holden Evening Prayer, 7PM (Zoom link on Camp's page)

### Study Schedule—NEW!

Wednesday: 10AM Bible Study on Zoom

Thursday: 3PM & 7PM Book Study on Zoom: The Quotidian Mysteries by Kathleen Norris  
(Attend either session as convenient; read through page 26)

## **Readings for the Week:**

**Monday** Psalm 134. **Tuesday** 1 Peter 2:1-3. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Catherine of Siena, theologian, died 1380) Exodus 24:1-11. **Thursday** Psalm 23. **Friday** (Philip and James, Apostles) John 14:8-14. **Saturday** (commemoration of Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, died 373) Ezekiel 34:1-16. **Fourth Sunday of Easter** Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10.

Reflection material: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Shirley Acker, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Jim Calvert, Clyde Claycomb, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, John Klepser, Betty Jane Moore, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

**Prayer Concerns:** John Aljets, Jerry Allen, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchart, Jim Calvert, Dwight Ciccotelli, Donna Corle, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, George Gilbert Sr., Shari Gilbert, Crystal Faust-Harbaugh, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Jillian, Melissa Johnson, Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Darren Kreutzer, Bill Lively, Sandy Loomis, Kristen Malloy, Savannah McCready, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Aunt Mica, Ray Overdorff, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Michele Smith, Luther Steele, Jim Stoudnour, Matt Straesser, Cindy Thomas, Dave Tremmel, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Robert Winston, Todd Yingling, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

**Those Serving Overseas:** Kyle Guyer & Colin Guyer – Middle East

## **THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)**

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2019 and as a result has \$5,025 for distribution in 2020. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting David Lehman, chairperson at [DLEHMAN1@ATLANTICBB.NET](mailto:DLEHMAN1@ATLANTICBB.NET)

**Deadline** to submit a request **BY EMAIL OR MAIL** is **Sunday May 24, 2020**. Funds will be distributed in June 2020.

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 by 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.