

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 14th, 2024 ~ 8:30am



+ Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church +

2451 Saucon Valley Rd. Center Valley, PA 18034

Office: 610-865-4144

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell, Pastor ~ 610-762-2139

Quinette Brucker, Dir. of Music/Organist

~WELCOME~

() Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music

Welcome & Announcements

*Opening Confession

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

P: Rejoicing in the resurrection, let us seek God's forgiveness that, dying to sin, we may walk in newness of life. — Faithful God ...

C: We confess that we have tried to live by our own strength, shunning the earth-shaking power of the resurrection. We have doubted your promises. We have failed to recognize You in the poor and needy. Have mercy on us, forgive us our sin, and restore to us the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Christ died to sin once for all, and now, victorious, lives to God. Our Savior has delivered us from the power of darkness and welcomed us into the realm of light. For His sake, God grants us pardon and peace, and the remission of all our sins. Amen.

*Opening Hymn #377

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!”

*The Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

P: Let us pray. ~ 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.**

The First Reading ~ Acts 3: 12-19

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

¹²Peter 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? ¹³The 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. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

L: Word of God, word of life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 4 (read responsively, lector then congregation)

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.

**⁴Tremble, 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.
**⁶Many 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.**

The Second Reading ~ 1 John 3: 1-7

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: Word of God, word of life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

*The 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.

*The Holy Gospel ~ Luke 24: 36b-48

In this account of an appearance after His resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand Him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that He has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the 24th chapter of St. Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among the disciples 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, Jesus 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 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.” ⁴⁵Then Jesus opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he 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.”

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Rich Teitsworth

*Hymn #635

“We Walk by Faith”

*The Apostles’ Creed (professed together)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into



heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Prayer of the Church

After each prayer petition, please respond:

P: God of grace ... C: **Receive our prayer.**

Anthem

“Hymn of Promise”

The Blessing of the Communion Elements

P: 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.

The Lord's Prayer (traditional ~ prayed by all)

+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

This morning, the sacrament will be received by method of intinction; that is, the Pastor will dip the wafer in the juice and will hand it to each communicant so that they may receive it between thumb and forefinger and place it in their own mouth. Children and youth not yet instructed in the meaning of the sacrament are welcome to receive a blessing and a cracker. †

*Post-Communion Prayer and Benediction

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witness-

P: es to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn #366

“The Strife is O'er”

The Dismissal

Go in peace; the risen Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God!

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*thank
you*

... to Pastor Rich Teitsworth for preaching and leading our
worship service this morning

... to Kay Sheerer for serving as our lector

... Diane Ernst for serving as our usher & counter

... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech



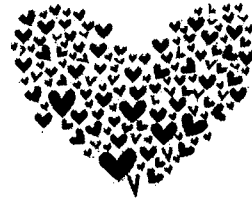
To be remembered in prayer ... Pastor Lisa, Leona Callahan, Sharon Edwards, Hope Geary, Harvey and Janet Heckman, Rod and Susan Heckman, Helen Kerositz, Kathleen Tuomela May, Zachary, and the people of Israel and Ukraine.



The altar flowers have been sponsored by
Bill Heins in memory of brother Bob



Karen Bugger would like to thank everyone for the cards, condolences, thoughts, and prayers extended to her and her family since the recent passing of her husband, Bill.



+ Emergency Contact +

Pastor Lisa will be away on her continuing education trip in Turkey and Greece until April 18th. If you or another member of Friedens require pastoral assistance during this time, please call the Rev. Rich Teitsworth at 484-695-4554.