

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GETHSEMANE! April 11, 2021

Today's Focus: With a triumph as glorious as Jesus' Easter resurrection, you could be forgiven for imagining the story ends with "and they lived happily ever after." Through Jesus we do get to live "forever after," but first comes the birth and growth of God's gift, His Church. We begin an eight-week series on the "rest of the story" as we look to the book of Acts.

+ WORSHIP THE LORD! +

LSB 477 ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! HEARTS TO HEAVEN sts. 1–2

1 Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:

Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

2 Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:

See the ancient pow'rs of evil In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, Whom we worship and
adore.

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INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

- P** If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,
- C** **we lie and do not practice the truth.**
- P** But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,
- C** **and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** If we say we have not sinned,
- C** **we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.**
- P** Almighty and everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy, You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Silence for reflection.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

LSB 477 ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! HEARTS TO HEAVEN st. 3

△ 3 Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia To the triune Majesty!

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ WORD +

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1–3 NIV

^{1:1} In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 6:1–12 NIV

¹ What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31 NIV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

- 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
 "Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
 Christ has triumphed! He is living!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
 That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

OUR PRAYERS

+ SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION +

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which

is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

+ COMMUNION HYMN +

LSB 763 WHEN PEACE, LIKE A RIVER

1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul. **Refrain**

**ref It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. **Refrain**

3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! **Refrain**

4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. **Refrain**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

LSB 411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

sts. 1, ref, 2

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus. **Refrain**

ref In Him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

And show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**

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