

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

April 19th, 2026 ~ 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 Litany (from the Church of Ireland)

- P: Risen One, like those disciples on the road to Emmaus, we struggle to recognize You in the everyday journey of our lives.
- C: **We seek your wisdom in the midst of the questions we have about the circumstances we find ourselves in — circumstances sometimes beyond our control, but often of our own making.**
- P: Open our eyes, Light of the World, to your work of transformation in and around us.
- C: **As we walk with You day by day, may your new life be made manifest in what we say to others.**
- P: As You opened the scriptures to the disciples, open our eyes to behold You ...
- C: **In your holy Word, in the beauty of nature, the beauty of another human being, and the beauty of sacred art.**
- P: In our seeing, help us to recognize and welcome the stranger in our midst.
- C: **May our welcome be a celebration of the gifts and graces of every person. Thank You for traveling with us in all our joys and our concerns. 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. ~ 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.

The First Reading ~ Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: ³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And Peter testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116 (selective verses, read responsively)

¹ I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,



² for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.

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

⁴ Then I called upon the name of the LORD:

“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

¹² How shall I repay the LORD

for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.

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

¹⁷ I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ in the courts of the LORD's house,

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading ~ 1 Peter 1: 17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ, we belong to God so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)**



***The Holy Gospel ~ Luke 24: 13-35**

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, He is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ 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?" ¹⁹ Jesus 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, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ 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. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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.”

²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² 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?” ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Hymn #522

“As We Gather at Your Table”

*The Apostles’ Creed (professed by all)

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,

*thank
you*

... to Carl Tyce for serving as our lector this morning
... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech
... to Janet Heckman for serving as our organist



To be remembered in prayer ... Ronald Black, Caitlin Carfagno, Ramone DeLeon, Richard Eisenhart, Faye, Timothy Filler, Hope Geary, Harlan, Jeanne Logan, Lori Remaly, Barb Shaneberger, Tyler and Elizabeth, Kathleen Tuomela May, Darrell Tuomela, Joe Ulmer, Monica Wagner, Leon Warmkessel, people living in war-torn countries, victims of oppression, injustice, violence, and natural disasters, and other dear ones whom we name before God. †

Drive-Thru Pulled Pork Dinner

Sat., April 25th ~ 4pm-6pm Cost \$15/per meal

Pulled pork, mac & cheese, coleslaw, roll, & cookie

Pre-orders are encouraged using the "contact us" section of the church website: www.friedenscentervalley.com

*Today's altar flowers have been sponsored
by Noemi Hernandez in honor of April
birthdays!*



and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of Intercession

After each prayer petition, please respond:

Merciful God ... **Receive our prayer.**

Anthem

“Day of Arising”

Blessing of the Elements



The Lord's Prayer

+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

This morning, the sacrament will be distributed by method of intinction; that is, the Pastor will dip the wafer in the cup, then hand it to each communicant so they may place it in their own mouth. Young children who do not yet received the sacrament are most welcome to come forward for a blessing and a cracker.

Post-Communion Blessing and Benediction

P: May the blessing of the risen Lord, the love of God that never lets us go, and the power of the Holy Spirit that gives us new life, be with you always. Amen.

***Closing Hymn #373 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Praise the risen Christ!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music



*From Sundays and Seasons.com Copyright 2026. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Annual License #.36667 NRSV Bible 2026.
Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches.*

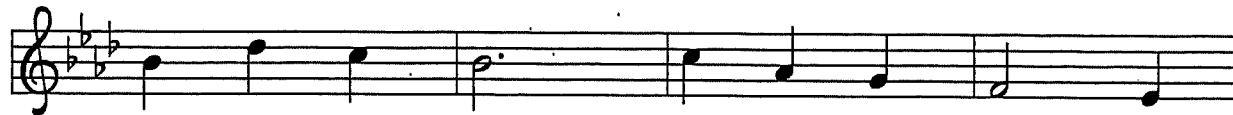
Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ial 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,



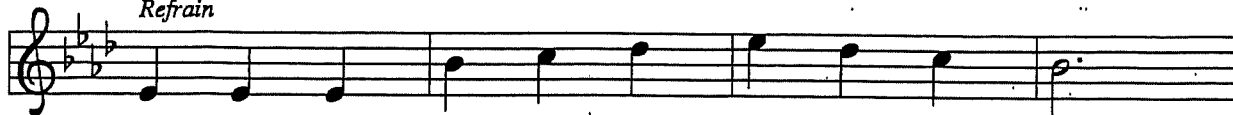
Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



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!

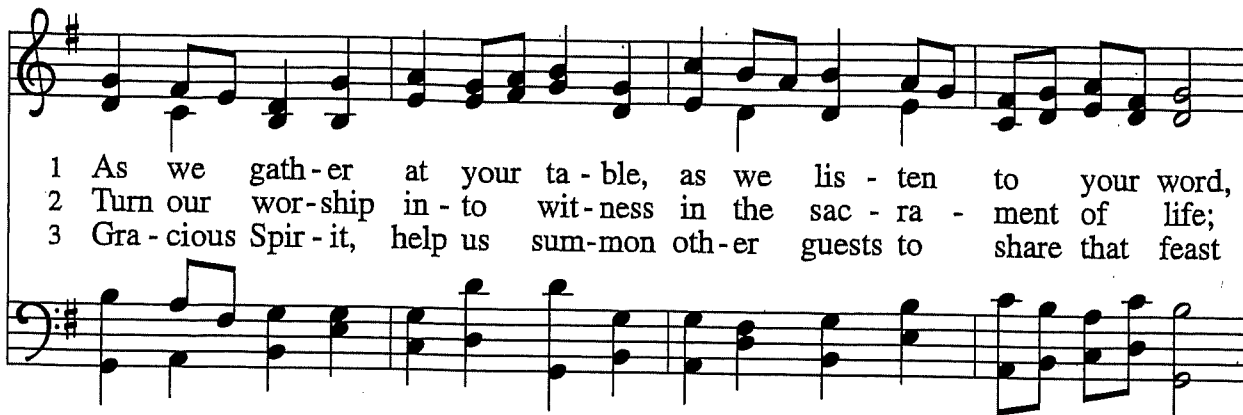
Refrain

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

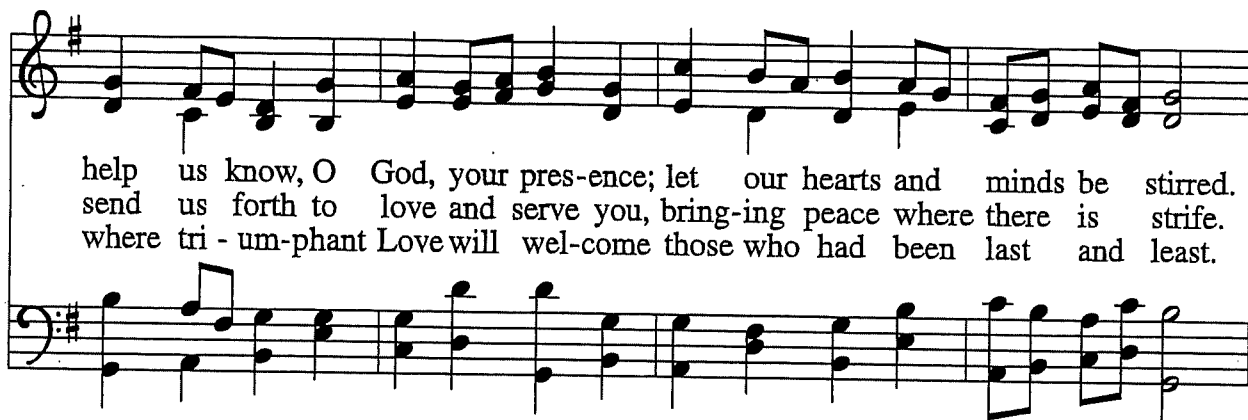


Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ial

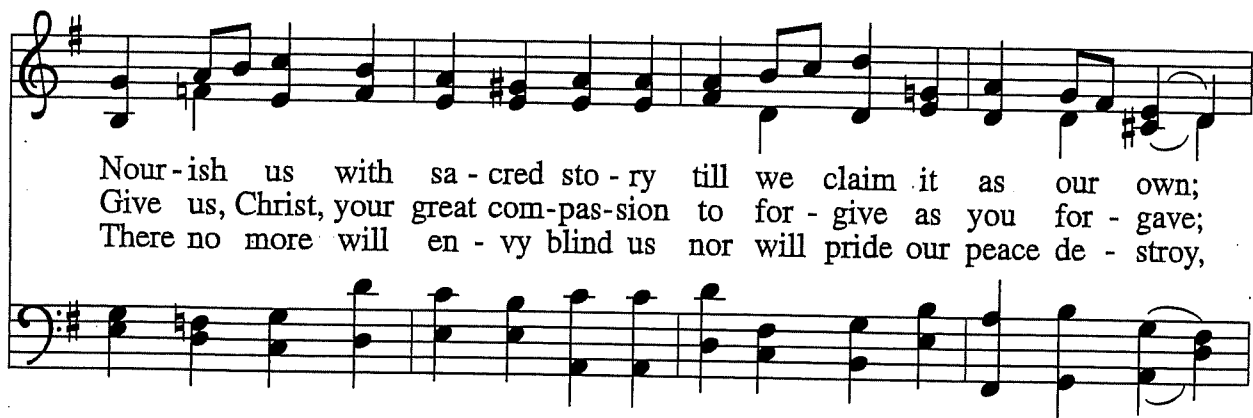
As We Gather at Your Table



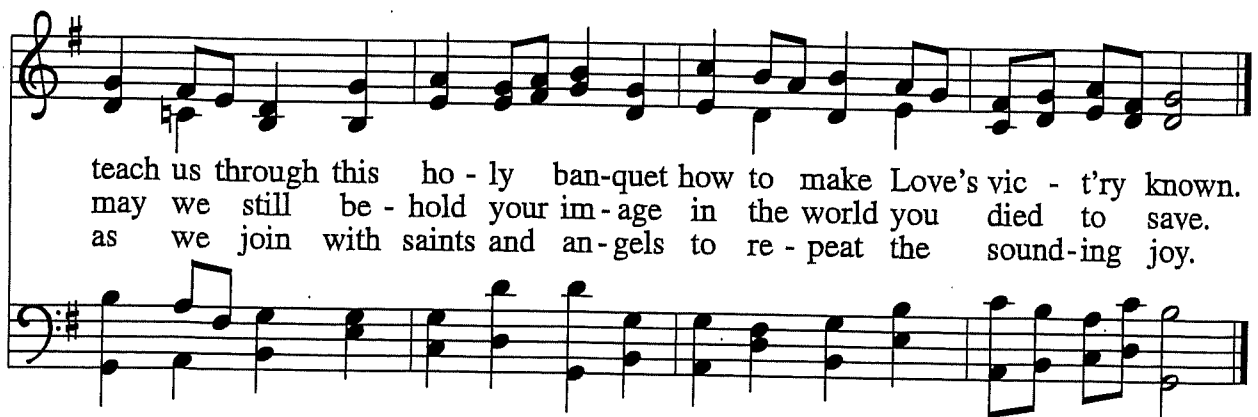
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!



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!