



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Hearts Cut, Burning, and Purified
Traditional Worship Service
April 23rd, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Today we see Jesus appear to His disciples on the road to Emmaus. They say afterward that their hearts burned within them as Jesus opened up to them the Scriptures. In the Reading from Acts, those gathered on Pentecost are cut to the heart by Peter's words. And in the Epistle, Peter speaks of purified souls and hearts. It seems our hearts are being greatly affected by Christ. They are cut, burning, and purified by the Word of Christ.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN

"Fight the Good Fight"

#664

1 Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your strength, and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and it shall be Your joy and crown eternally.

2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; Lift up your eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

3 Cast care aside, lean on your guide; His boundless mercy will provide. Trust, and enduring faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.

4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He changes not who holds you dear; Only believe, and you will see That Christ is all eternally.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (sing) Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: God raised Jesus from the dead
People: and gave Him honor and glory.

Pastor: We place our faith in Him,
People: and we place our hope in His resurrection.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As human beings, we inherited futile ways and deeds. We were born in sin, and we daily sin much. Though we may try to do what is right, we always fall short, burdened by mistakes and the weight of sin. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to draw near, confess our sins, and long to hear His living and abiding Word.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,
People: we have not been pure of heart and mind and soul. We have not obeyed Your truth. We have not loved one another as we should. Forgive us for our futility, renew us by Your resurrection, and lead us back to the lives You want for us, on account of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: “The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the Word of the Lord remains forever.” That Word of God tells us clearly that Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die and rise 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.

People: Amen. We are purified because of the precious blood of Jesus.

✠ WORD ✠

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **(sing) Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation."⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:17-25

17 And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile,¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,¹⁹ but with the precious blood of

Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. ²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴ for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:13–35

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-fourth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹ And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up 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 happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even 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 him they did not see.” ²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his

glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. ²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace" #580

1 The Gospel shows the Father's grace, Who sent His Son to save our race,
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died That we might thus be justified.

2 It sets the Lamb before our eyes, Who made the atoning sacrifice,
And calls the souls with guilt oppressed To come and find eternal rest.

3 It brings the Savior's righteousness To robe our souls in royal dress;
From all our guilt it brings release And gives the troubled conscience peace.

4 It is the pow'r of God to save From sin and Satan and the grave;
It works the faith which firmly clings To all the treasures which it brings.

5 It bears to all the tidings glad And bids their hearts no more be sad;
The weary, burdened souls it cheers And banishes their guilty fears.

6 **May we in faith its message learn Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
May we in faith its truth confess And praise the Lord, our
righteousness.**

SERMON

*“By Faith or By Deeds?”
Vicar Justin Brockman*

1 Peter 1:17-19

OFFERTORY

“Create in Me” #956

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.*

THE OFFERING (*baskets will be passed*)

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING HYMN

“Come, My Soul, with Every Care” #779

**Come, my soul, with ev'ry care, Jesus loves to answer prayer;
He Himself has bid thee pray, Therefore will not turn away.
Thou art coming to a King, Large petitions with thee bring;
For His grace and pow'r are such None can ever ask too much.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Petitions heard... (*ending with...*) Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: (sing) And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: (sing) We lift them up unto the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **(sing) It is meet and right so to do.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. By His Word, He has caused us to receive saving faith, and by His death and resurrection, He has given us the sure hope that because He lives, we will also for eternity. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

#195

(sing) Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

we pray,
faithful
no end.
To You
Son and

People: **(sing) Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *(found inside back cover of the hymnal)*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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 \texttimes 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 \texttimes blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: (sing) Amen.

DISTRIBUTION *"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"* #618

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul; Thou,
Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole: Lord, may
Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation
see Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart, Yet
Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art:
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

4 Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

**5 What higher gift can we inherit? It is fatih's bond and solid base; It is
 the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us
 through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy
 You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You
 and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ,
 Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
 Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (sing) Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: (sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"* #477

**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.**

**Alleluia, 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.**



**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high: Alleluia to the Savior
 Who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit,**

**Found of love and sanctity! Alleluia, alleluia To the
triune Majesty!**

SILENT PRAYER