

THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER
April 18, 2021
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHERING

Prelude/Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship

P: Lord you are a present help in trouble. **C: Come revive, Redeem, Restore.**

P: In our darkness, come as light. **C: In our sadness, come as joy; In our troubles, come as peace.** P: In our weakness, come as strength. Come Lord, to our aid. **C: Revive, Redeem, Restore us.**

-Tides and Seasons by David Adam.

Opening Hymn: No. 377 "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen" vs. 1, 2, and 4

Confession of Sin:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who forgives all of our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **C: Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

First Lesson: Acts 3:12-19

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

Here ends the first lesson. **C: Thanks be to God**

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Psalm 4

Answer 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.

C: “You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?”

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; the Lord will hear me when I call.

C: Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

C: Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?” Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

C: In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.

The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

See 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. Beloved, 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. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Here ends the second lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in honor of the reading of the gospel. The Holy Gospel is taken from **Luke 24:36b-48**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look 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.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then 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.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day No. 374 “Day of Arising”

Affirmation of Faith:

C: We believe in God above us, Maker and Sustainer of all life.

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of compassion. He died forsaken; he descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb; he ascended into heaven to be everywhere present; and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire; life-giving breath of the church, spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.

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From Iona Community; Scotland

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

Mission Moment

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION HYMNS: No. 469 "By Your Hand You Feed your People"; 744 "Lord, Be Glorified";

467 "We Place Upon Your Table, Lord"

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE SENT FORTH

Benediction

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father + and of the Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. C: Amen.

Sending Hymn No. 389 "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing" vs 1, 2, 5

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen. C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Welcome! Great to have you here! Thank you for choosing to worship with us here today. We practice open Communion at First Lutheran. If you believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, his body and blood shed for you, you are welcome to our table. Apple juice is available upon request.

The Worship Radio Broadcast today is sponsored in celebration of Ron & Karen Hellie's 58th Wedding Anniversary.

† **Continuing Prayer Concerns:** Dennis Hazelton, Val Carmondy, Janice Harkema, John

Wedding Anniversary.

✠ **Continuing Prayer Concerns:** Dennis Hazelton, Val Carmondy, Janice Harkema, John Dubbelde, Sarah Meyer, Jeanine Olson and Barb Barduson as they deal with health issues.

This Week's Schedule – April 18, 2021

Today 9:30am Worship/Holy Communion at Church and live streamed

Tuesday 9:30am Group Circle meeting/lunch - one lesson will be in the morning & one in the afternoon - feel free to come just for lunch

Thursday 9:30am Quilting

Sunday 9:30am Worship at Church and live streamed

Ministers Members of First Lutheran Church

Pastor Rev. Joyce Tollefson Capp

Organist Paul Mesner

Sound Brandon Willey & Mark Zinnel

Reader Amy Willey

Communion Assistant: Alex Willey

Question of the Month for April 2021

_____What's your favorite Easter tradition? Please email your response to henriksen7@mchsi.com

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