WE WALK BY FAITH



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia

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The Second Sunday of Easter # April 24, 2022 # 8:30 A.M.
Fritz Utiese, Senior Pastor Miniam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music

P = Pastor \square = Lector [reader] Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (hymnal, if you have one at home) \square Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDES

Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion, so please pick up a prefilled communion "kit" on the altar rail as you approach the altar. Please tell an usher if you need a communion kit brought to you where you sit. At home you may prepare ahead of time wine/grape juice and bread appropriate for your family. Our liturgy declares we celebrate with "the church on earth and the hosts of heaven." We acknowledge that communion always connects us "remotely" and powerfully with the Church through time and space.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

☆ GATHERING HYMN PRAISE: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

ELW Hymn 377

Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light! Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

- Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes; breaking our bread, giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain*
- Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree; heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain*
- Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent: death put asunder, and Easter is bright. Cherubim sing: O grave, be open! Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. *Refrain*

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

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企 GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- And also with you.

† PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son.
By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

READINGS: Confirmands' Life-Verses

- L Today's lesson is made up of verses chosen by some of our Confirmands to guide their faith-lives.
- Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7

- Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

 Psalm 139: 23-24
- In Christ there is perfect peace. In the world there is tribulation. Jesus said, "Be of good cheer and have courage for I have overcome the world."

 John 16:33
- Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

 Psalm 23:4
- Be strong and of good courage, do not be afraid; for I, the Lord your God, will go with you; I will not leave you nor forsake you.
 ▶ Deuteronomy 31:6

- For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

 Ephesians 2:10
- ... Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

 Isaiah 40:29-31
- I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

 Psalm 139:14
- L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

The Strife Is O'er

ELW Hymn 366

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done; now is the victor's triumph won!

Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

—New Century Version

- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.
 - week later the followers were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came in and stood right in the middle of them. He said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand here in my side. Stop being an unbeliever and believe."
 - ²⁸Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"
 - ²⁹Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you see me. Those who believe without seeing me will be truly blessed."
 - ³⁰Jesus did many other miracles in the presence of his followers that are not written in this book.
 - ³¹But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Then, by believing, you may have life through his name.
- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Miriam

1 HYMN OF THE DAY: We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

ELW Hymn 635

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
- We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod; but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
- Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:
- 4 For you, O resurrected Lord, are found in means divine: beneath the water and the word, beneath the bread and wine.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, altered

Text is in Public Domain.

1 OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

- **P** Let us confess our baptismal faith 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "God, in your mercy" please respond, "hear our prayer."
The prayers are ended with these words, "We offer to you these petitions and those we carry in our hearts, trusting in your abundant and ever-present mercy." Please respond, "Amen."

OFFERING MUSIC: Here I Am, Lord

Sanctuary Choir

Link to give: https://coslutheran.org/give/

"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

REFRAIN: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

- 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" REFRAIN
- 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" *REFRAIN*

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946 Text © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc. OneLicense A701929 This arrangement © 1981, 1991 Daniel L Schutte and New Dawn Music

☆ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **W**e lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
 - And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
 - with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
- Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

 Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

 —ELW page 144

† WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

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.

SHARING COMMUNION WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD

As the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church. Please approach the altar using the diagonal aisles and return by the side or middle aisles. You will be offered a wafer, which you may dip in the chalice of wine or white grape juice. You may also choose a packaged cup with wine or grape juice, or a gluten-free wafer with wine (as we have been using throughout the pandemic).

At home commune each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise: "The body of Christ for you" and "The blood of Christ for you."

HYMN during COMMUNION: Touch that Soothes and Heals

[ACS* Hymn 939]

1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurting, hands that break a loaf of bread; steps that walk beside the weary, bearing burdens in their stead:

Refrain: "See my hands and feet," said Jesus, love arisen from the grave.
"Be my hands and feet," said Jesus, "live as ones I died to save."

- Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit ones in need of care, give the homeless warmth and shelter: Christ will find a welcome there. *Refrain*
- 3 Love and serve without distinction all earth's people, first and least. Know within each act of kindness hope and wholeness are increased. *Refrain*
- 4 Hands that beckon little children, bind a wound, prepare a meal, feet that rush to share good tidings, Christ arisen, still reveal. *Refrain*

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Augsburg Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.

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*All Creation Sings, new hymnal from

† PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

- God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, + bless you now and forever.
- C Amen.

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☆ SENDING HYMN: O Jesus, I Have Promised

- O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain forever near me, my master and my friend. I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
- Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.
 I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.
 My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
 but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.
- Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will. Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.
- O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, altered Text is in Public Domain

立 DISMISSAL

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
- **Q** Thanks be to God.

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Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God by Kathie Manes in celebration of Laura Manes' birthday.

