

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia
April 23, 2023
11:00 A.M.

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Peachtree City, Georgia

The Third Sunday of Easter ☩ April 23, 2023 ☩ 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor

Cheryl Dietmeyer, Guest Music Leader James C. Hagberg, Sanctuary Choir Director

Shelly Jakubowski, Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministry

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation *ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)*
↑ Please stand as you are able.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION: AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

MARIUS BOGDANSKI, ISABELLA FROLIO, NATHAN GUNDERSEN, VANESSA HAUSNER, AVA KELLY,
XANDER LEE, BRADFORD MCCUMBER, JONAH O'CLAIR, and GIOVANNI OKORONKWO

PRELUDES

*Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion. Communion is offered by intinction: you may receive a wafer and dip it in the chalice with wine or white grape juice. Or you may 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

Pastor Fritz

↑ **EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

↑ **GATHERING HYMN: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen**

ELW Hymn 377

**1 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!

**2 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**

**3 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**

**5 City of God, Easter forever, golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels, sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain**

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926-2009

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↑ **GREETING**

☐ 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**

☐ 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.**

READING: Ephesians 3:15-21

Ⓐ Today's reading is from Paul's letter to the Ephesian Christians, the third chapter.

[**M**ay God] strengthen you by his Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.

²⁰⁻²¹God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

Ⓐ Word of God, Word of life.

☛ **Thanks be to God.**

⤴ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *The Strife Is O'er*

ELW Hymn 366

1 **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

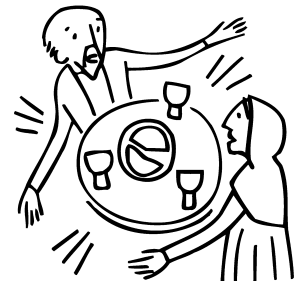
The strife is o'er, the battle done; now is the victor's triumph won!

Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; translated by Francis Pott, 1832-1909

Text is in Public Domain.



⤴ **GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35**

Ⓐ The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

☛ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] 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?”**

Ⓐ ¹⁹He 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,**

Ⓐ ²⁰and 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.

Ⓐ ²⁸As 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.” ▶**

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P So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other,

C **“Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”**

P ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying,

C **“The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!”**

P ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Confirmands, Teachers, Pastors

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

ELW Hymn 810

1 **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.**

2 **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.**

3 **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.**

4 **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

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THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION: AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

[ELW, pages 234-237]

P Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

L I present *[names]*, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

P Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C **Amen.**

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C **I renounce them.**

- P** Do you believe in God the Father?
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C** **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.
- P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C** **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.**
- P** You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

- P** People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?
- C** **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Those making affirmation kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

- P** **Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.**

The pastors lay both hands on the head of each Confirmand and ask God to stir up the Holy Spirit in each life.

- P/L** Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.
- C** **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**
Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We acknowledge that you may have already offered your gifts electronically or by mail. Thank you.

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



OFFERING MUSIC: *Heaven Bound*

Sanctuary Choir

↑ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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.**
- P** 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:

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. —*ELW page 108*

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P** 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.

↑ THE 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.

SHARING COMMUNION WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD

*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 either the chalice of wine or the white grape juice.
 You may also choose a packaged cup with wine or grape juice, or a gluten-free wafer with wine.
 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."*

COMMUNION HYMN: *Day of Arising*

ELW Hymn 324; Alternate Tune: BUNESSAN

- 1** Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own.
 When they invite him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.
- 2** When we are walking, doubtful and dreading, blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
 yet Christ walks with us ever awaiting our invitation: Stay, do not part.
- 3** Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken. This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
 When the church gathers, when bread is broken, there Christ is with us in bread and wine.
- 4** Christ, our companion, hope for the journey, bread of compassion, open our eyes.
 Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning that all creation with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953-2021

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↑ PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDECTION

- P** The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.
- C** Amen.

↑ SENDING HYMN: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

ELW Hymn 674

- 1** Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
 bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

*Refrain: Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!
 Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound! ▶*

**2 Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.**

***Refrain: Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

**3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! *Refrain***

Text: Fred Kaan, 1929-2009

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↑ SENDING

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P** Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
Announce to all the possibilities of Jesus' joy and life.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

↑ POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Pat and Mike Oliver

Tech crew: David Kilgore, Dakota Atkins (8:30); Brad Milburn; Joni Siepert (11:00)

Ushers: Mark Barbour and John Musil (8:30); Mike and Pat Oliver (11:00)

Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God by Kathie Manes in honor of Mike and Laura's birthdays.

