

# THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Peachtree City, Georgia  
April 14, 2024  
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Bishop Kevin Strickland, Bishop Southeastern Synod, ELCA  
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor  
Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music  
Karl Dietmeyer, Conductor Christ Our Shepherd Winds

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

**PRELUDE**    *Finlandia, Jean Sibelius; 1942 Moravian Youth Hymnal*    *COS Winds*  
*Joyful, Joyful, Beethoven, arr. Tom Payne*

*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.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven, Cathy Moglebust*    *Peace Ringers*

☐ Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
☑ **Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**    Pastor Miriam

## ↑ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

☐ The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always  
☑ **And also with you.**  
*We share a sign of God's peace.*

↑ **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**

**4 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**

**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**

## ↑ 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

- ☞ 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.**

**MUSICAL OFFERING:** *Joyous Spirit, Valerie W. Stephenson*

*Joyful Noise Ringers*

**FIRST READINGS:** 1 John 3:1-2, Isaiah 43:1-3, 7 and 1 Chronicles 28:20

*see insert*

## ↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Sung by the choir*

Alleluia. Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures. Alleluia.  
*Setting by James C. Hagberg, 2024, in honor of Pastor Miriam Beecher.*

## ↑ GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

*see insert*

## SERMON

Pastor Miriam

## ↑ HYMN OF THE DAY: *Travelers on the Journey*

*Dakota Road Music*

### *Refrain*

**We are trav'lers on the journey, yearning to believe.  
 Hearts are burning, eyes are open. We are trav'lers on the journey of love.**

- 1 What is life really all about in the struggle of faith?  
 Hear the word reaching out to you, Jesus is alive today. *Refrain***
- 2 Do we walk in our foolishness with our hearts ever slow  
 to the touch of the Holy One who is with us on this road? *Refrain***
- 3 We are blessed in the gathering at the table of grace.  
 Free to see in another's pain the face of Jesus here today. *Refrain***

Text and music: Larry Olson and Hans Peterson  
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## ↑ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

- ☞ Let us profess 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 of grace," please respond, "Hear our prayer."  
 The prayers are ended with these words, "Into your hands, most merciful God,... through Jesus Christ,  
 our resurrected and living Lord." Please respond, "Amen."*

## 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/>



**MUSICAL OFFERING** *Praise His Holy Name, Keith Hampton*  
*Sanctuary Choir, Kendra Campbell-Milburn-soloist, Dana Bogdanksi-bass, Mark Summers-drums*

↑ **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, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:  
**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna. 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**

↑ **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.**

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*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.*

**COMMUNION HYMN** *Come to the Table*

*ELW Hymn 481*

**Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.**  
**All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.**  
**Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand.**  
**Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

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**COMMUNION HYMN** *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

*ELW Hymn 470*

- 1** **Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name**  
**two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them.**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.**
- 2** **As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,**  
**then with thanks to God the giver break the bread and bless the cup,**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! so now bind our friendship up.**
- 3** **All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,**  
**that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.**

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.

Text from *Songs of Praise* Enlarged Edition © Oxford University Press 1931. Used by Permission. OneLicense #A-701929

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING** *Who Puts His Trust in God Most Just, J. S. Bach, arr. James Croft*  
*Sanctuary Choir and COS Winds*

↑ **GODSPEED AND BLESSING FOR PASTOR MIRIAM BEECHER**

↑ **SENDING HYMN** *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*  
*Setting by Donald Busarow*

- 1 **“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
 Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
 In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
 Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”**
- 2 **“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory.  
 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”**
- 3 **CHOIR only: “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
 Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
 Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.  
 Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”**
- 4 **“I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.  
 I the Lord will smile upon you, and give you peace.  
 I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter and Brother.  
 Go, my children, I will keep you, and give you peace.”**

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919-2008, alt.

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↑ **SENDING**

- 🎵 Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
 Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus’ pathway of joy and life.
- 🎵 **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

↑ **POSTLUDE** *At A Dixieland Jazz Funeral, Jared Spears*

*COS Winds*

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 in the United States of America. Used by permission.

*Altar Guild: Carol Talbot, Judy Owen*

*Lector: Rev. Sue Lynn White*

*Tech crew: (8:30) Davida Kilgore, Dakota Atkins*

*(11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Brad Milburn, Joni Siefert*

*Usher: (8:30) John Musil*

*(11:00) Ben McCumber*

*Altar flowers given by Debra Jarzomkowski in memory of Nick Washington*

*Additional flowers given in honor of Pastor Miriam Beecher’s 25 years of service at COS.*

**Christ Our Shepherd Winds**

Karl P. Dietmeyer, conductor

*Flute: Rita DeNell, Penny Kahley, Sara Turk, Sarah Wampler*

*Oboe: Maiya Frederick*

*Clarinet: Megan Irvin*

*Saxophone: Sarah Juhasz, Domenic Ravita*

*Trumpet: Lauri Gambrel, Morgan Hebert, Ethan Hoellrich*

*Alto Horn: Lauri Gambrel*

*French Horn: Chelby Gambrel, Madeline Therriault*

*Trombone: Mayson Groover, Elliott Keyser, Oliver Ravita*

*Euphonium: Dave Byers, Xander Lee*

*Tuba: Xavier Lee*

*Percussion: Bert Groover, James McDaniel, Mark Summers*

# THE LESSONS

Sunday, April 14

**FIRST READINGS:** *The first readings are from 1st John, Isaiah and 1st Chronicles.*

## **1 John 3:1-2**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. ...Beloved, we are God's children now.

## **Isaiah 43:1-3, 7 and 1 Chronicles 28:20**

The LORD who created you and formed you says: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. I am the LORD your God, ... and you are precious in my sight and I love you." *Therefore, remember* to be strong and of good courage, and act. Do not be afraid or dismayed, for the Lord God is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the Lord is finished.

☒ The Word of the Lord. ☑ **Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35** *Congregation reads the line in BOLD type.*

☒ The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter. ☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> 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?"

<sup>19</sup> He 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, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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."

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

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> 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.

<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> 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?"**

<sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> 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.**

*Holy Living God, we are travelers on your journey of love. We are travelers on this journey yearning to believe. May your Holy Spirit burn in our hearts and our eyes be opened. Amen*

