

# Third Sunday of Easter



**Sunday, April 14, 2024**

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ  
2725 Concord Drive  
Florissant, MO 63033

## PRELUDE

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

by Michael Burkhardt

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Details on announcements are at the end of this bulletin.)*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM *(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**C: Amen. Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

**C: The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.**

P: In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

**C: Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen. Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## GATHERING HYMN

"The Day of Resurrection!"

ELW #361

## GREETING

P: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

**C: 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST READING Acts 3:12-19

<sup>12</sup>[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?"<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

<sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

L: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**      Antiphonal Alleluia

**PSALM 4**

L: <sup>1</sup>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: <sup>2</sup>“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

L: <sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

**C: <sup>4</sup>Tremble, then, and do not sin; to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

L: <sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

**C: <sup>6</sup>Many are saying, “Who will show us <sup>1</sup> any good?” Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

L: <sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

**C: <sup>8</sup>In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

**SECOND READING 1 John 3:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: Word of God, Word of life.    **C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING** - *Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the gospel.*

P: The holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter (verses 36b-48)

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>36</sup> While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>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.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>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.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>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, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.    **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Following the reading the assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Matt

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

ELW#377

**PROFESSION OF FAITH – *The Apostles’ Creed***

**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 INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty (*especially...*). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry at Living Christ. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died (*especially...*). As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God, creator of generations, you have worked through families to bring faith, hope, and love since creation. Continue to nurture, guide, and inspire our family of faith, especially our brothers and sisters in the Smart, Kaepfel, and Keeven families. Guide, protect, and build these families up in faith. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*Share God's peace in whatever way you and/or neighbors are comfortable.  
Following the sharing of the peace the assembly is seated.*

**GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**COMMUNION LITURGY**

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. Hosanna in the highest!**

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Remember us and teach us to pray,

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. **C: Amen.**

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION** *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine. Additional verbal directions will be given.*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Now All the Vault of Heaven”

ELW#367

## BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠  
bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER

L: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and  
delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **C: Amen.**

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

### BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the  
LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. (Num. 6:24)

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

“The Joyful Eastertide”

ELW#391

## DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

**“The Joyful Eastertide”**

**by Paul Bouman**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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- 1. Quilt-making with Girl Scouts** - Living Christ & Girl Scout Troop 994 service days. Thursday @ 6:30-8:00 on Apr. 25. “Create Days” will be to make quilt tops and backs at LCLC on several Friday mornings. See Kathy Endorf for more info. Thank you to everyone who has helped in this endeavor, it has been a wonderful experience for the Girl Scouts and Living Christ!!!
- 2. LCLC Quilters only** - The following dates are “Create Days” for making the quilt tops and backs for the Living Christ/Girl Scout quilt-making coming up in April. Friday, Apr. 12 @ 9-11 a.m.
- 3. "50+ will be touring a working dairy farm on Wednesday, April 17, at 10:30 am. The farm is Meyer Electric & Farm in Breese, IL. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Carpooling will be arranged as necessary. Lunch at Applebee's in Breese, IL following the approximately 1 hour tour."**

**APRIL 14, 2024**

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt

**Assisting Minister:** Bill Kaepffel

**Lector:** Terry Calderwood

**Live Streaming:** Rod Wallace

**Musician:** David Eggers

**Ushers:** Dave Endorf & Randy Henning

**Greeter:** Joyce Meyer

**Altar Guild:** Karen Haynes & Sheila Smart

**APRIL 21, 2024**

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt

**Assisting Minister:** Angela Bennett

**Lector:** Gary Brown

**Live Streaming:** Rod Wallace

**Musician:** Greg Ott

**Ushers:** Jim & Doris Stoechner

**Greeter:** Jeanne Calderwood

**Altar Guild:** Joyce Wolf & Ann Schultz