

# Third Sunday of Easter



**Sunday, May 4, 2025**

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

## PRELUDE

“Now the Green Blades Rises”

Carl Schalk

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Details are on the slides and at the end of bulletin)*

## GATHERING HYMN

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

ELW#379

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God’s abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate One,

**C: You are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God’s arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God’s house forever.

**C: Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

“This is the Feast”

ELW#140-141

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING Acts 9:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” <sup>5</sup> He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 30

L: I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

**C: O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

L: You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

**C: Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**

L: God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

**C: While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never<sup>1</sup> be disturbed.**

L: You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

**C: I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

L: "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"

**C: Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper."**

L: You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

**C: Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

## SECOND READING Revelation 5:11-14

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" <sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" <sup>14</sup> And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL READING

P: The holy Gospel according to John, the 21st chapter (verses 1-19)

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

<sup>1</sup> After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup> Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup> Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he

was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup> (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Following the reading the assembly is seated*

**SERMON** – Pastor Matt

*Please stand as you are able*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives"

ELW#380

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

**MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT** -- Administrative Professionals Day was observed on April 22 with a luncheon in Cynthia's honor. Many thanks to Cynthia for her dedication and hard work for Living Christ. Also, a thank you to Marilyn for organizing the luncheon.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE** *Please stand as you are able*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Share God's peace in whatever way you are comfortable. Following this please be seated.*

## **GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

ELW#188

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is more rhythmic and includes some triplet-like patterns. The lyrics are written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure.

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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom 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.**



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

**C: Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION** *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine.*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"I Love to Tell the Story"

ELW#661

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God's grace unto eternal life.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER

L: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray **C: Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

P: The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **C: Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

L: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

“He is Risen, He’s Risen

Kenneth Kosche

**THIS WEEK at LCLC**


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Sunday	(5-4)	NO Vocal Choir 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Adult Forum
Tuesday	(5-6)	10:00 AM Bible Study – Acts 11:00 AM Exercise Class
Wednesday	(5-7)	9:00 AM Inventory Crew
Thursday	(5-8)	11:00 AM Exercise Class 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch
Friday	(5-9)	11:00 AM Bells

- Baby Shower Donation Drive is today May 4 from 2:30-4:30pm @ Zion..** Please see Cathie Lehr for details.
- Lunch Bunch** will be dining at Irma Jeans on May 8, located at 2109 Charbonier Rd. at 11:30 am. Lunch bunch is a nice way to enjoy a meal and enjoy fellowship. We welcome everyone to attend. For reservations contact Joyce Meyer at 314-374-4135 or email 314-838-3741.
- Panera Fundraiser for FMSC** Enjoy a delicious meal on May 12 and help raise funds for the Feed My Starving Children North County July Mobile Pack. Panera Bread will give us 25% of the proceeds from sales at the Bridgeton store (12226 St. Charles Rock Road). A paper or digital copy of the Panera flyer must be used when you order in person. Flyers are available on the fmscnoco.org Fundraising page or see bulletin board. You can also order online at panerabread.com and enter code FUND4U.
- 50+ Aerie’s Winery** Visit Aerie’s winery in Grafton with 50+ on Thursday, May 22. Meet at the church 10am to travel to Grafton for lunch and a fabulous view of the Mississippi River and area surrounding Grafton. See the Communicator, bulletin board, or contact Erle Craig for additional details. Sign up on the bulletin board in the cloak room.
- Meals for Room at the Inn:** Living Christ continues to provide a meal on the 4th Wednesday of each month in 2025 for Room at the Inn. If you are interested in this Outreach project, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Meals should be made for 25 people (15 adults and 10 children), and can be meat or main dish, two vegetables or side dishes, fruit and dessert. Meals should be delivered by 5:00 p.m. to Drury House at Marygrove, 2705 Mullanphy Lane, Florissant. Keep track of your expenses, save receipts, fill out a check request form, and put into the Treasurer’s mailbox for reimbursement from Outreach. Any questions, please speak with Kathy Endorf (502) 475-4508. Dates available are Wednesdays, August 27, September 24, October 22, and November 26. Thank you!
- Church Inventory** –We continue to inventory items in our church. Please take any items inside or outside the church that belong to you or serve as a memory of a loved one. Please do not remove any fabric from our downstairs, it is designated for Lutheran World Relief. If there is an item in church that you would like to have please contact a member of the Inventory Team. Thanks, Cathie, Laurie, Marilyn.
- FMSC “Adopt a Pallet” fundraiser.** Pallets cost \$2500 and provide 8000 meals. LCLC’s progress toward reaching our \$2500 goal is in the narthex. Make checks out to “Feed My Starving Children” or “FMSC”, write “Adopt a Pallet” on the memo line, and place in the collection plate or give to Randy Henning. Place cash in an envelope labeled “Adopt a Pallet”. Please talk to Randy with questions or comments.
- Need a Ride?** - If you, or someone you know, need a ride to church, an appointment, a store, or other, please call Cathie Lehr 314-809-4477, or Marilyn Wiley 314-223-7155.
- WORSHIP SERVICE WITH ZION @ Living Christ** We will have worship service at LCLC with Zion Lutheran Church on May 25th. Following worship service we will have a potluck to follow in our lower level. We will also be celebrating our time with Pastor Matt as this will be his last Sunday with us. Please join us so we can wish him well!

**May 4**

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt  
**Assisting Minister:** Angela Bennett  
**Lector:** Gary Brown  
**Live Stream:** Gary & Laurie Brown  
**Musician:** David Eggers  
**Ushers:** Ann Schultz & Glen Albers  
**Greeter:** Jim Stoehner  
**Altar Guild:** Doris Stoehner, Bill Kaepfel & Marilyn Wiley

**May 11**

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt  
**Assisting Minister:** Randy Henning  
**Lector:** Laurie Brown  
**Live Stream:** Rod Wallace  
**Musician:** Greg Ott  
**Ushers:** Levaughn & Sheila Smart  
**Greeter:** Judy Holmes  
**Altar Guild:** Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker