

Concordia Lutheran Church & St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
The Order of Worship for the Sundays of Easter  
April 11, 2021

Topic: The Second Sunday of Easter

Time: Sunday, April 11, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82324470555?pwd=Z3dCRVpwSlpjaTRZWXQvRHpmaUhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 2447 0555

Password: 0000

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You will be able to speak and to hear the service.**

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*Introduction to the Day: The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.*

**PRELUDE:** *Christ Is Arisen*

J.S. Bach; *John Anderson*

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*Pastor Marschhausen*

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We thank you, risen Christ, for the waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.**

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

**Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.**

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

**Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.**

Make us one, risen Christ.

**Cleanse our hearts.**

Shower us with life.

**To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN**      *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*

- 1 Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.  
For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.

*Refrain:* Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.  
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

- 2 For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed.  
He who gives life did death undergo, and in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain*

- 3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for Jesus who is not here.  
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare. Only the graveclothes are lying there." *Refrain*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Reverend Johnson*

The Lord be with you.    **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**      *This Is the Feast of Victory for Our God*

*Refrain:* This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain ...*
2. Power, riches, wisdom and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his. *Refrain ...*
3. Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
    Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
    be to God and the Lamb forever. *Amen. Refrain ...*
4. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

*Final Refrain:* This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE**

The First Reading – Acts 4:32-35

*Reader from St. Mary's*

*While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.*

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm – Psalm 133

*Reader from Concordia leads*

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleasant it is,  
when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,  
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.  
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

The Second Reading – First John 1:1 – 2:2

*Reader from St. Mary's*

*The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.*

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — <sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us — <sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

A Celtic Alleluia



The Holy Gospel – John 20:19-31

*Deacon Fedorchak proclaims the Gospel*

*The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Thine Is the Glory*

1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

### *Refrain*

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;  
let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting! *Refrain*

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *Refrain*

## **HOMILY**

*Reverend Johnson*

*A Moment for Reflection*

## **NICENE CREED**

*Pastor Marschhausen*

Together with all the people of God, let us confess our faith:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
 true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
 through him all things were made.**  
**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**  
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**  
**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
 and his kingdom will have no end.**  
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
 who has spoken through the prophets.**  
**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**  
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**  
**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE**

*Leader from Concordia*

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

You shower your church with grace, O God. Unite the whole church on earth, so that with one heart it testifies to the resurrection of Jesus Christ with power and love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You proclaim the blessing of life forevermore. Like dew upon the mountains, refresh your creation. Restore waters, cleanse the air, and provide revitalizing moisture to parched land. Give your whole creation the promise of new life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You direct the nations, O God. Guide all in authority, that they shepherd their peoples in the ways of your love. Defeat in us our impulse to war. Bestow the peace of Christ upon those in authority and breathe upon them the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You place within the heart of the church a spirit of sharing. Give us the power of your generous Spirit, that we provide for the needs of others in our community and world. Announce your peace to those who are lonely, hurting, suffering, sick or afraid. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You give us fellowship with one another in this faith community of St. Mary's and Concordia. Shine the light of the risen Christ in our life together, so that we live in love for one another and our joy may be complete. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You share the gift of eternal life. In thanksgiving and remembrance, we recall the lives and gifts of those who now live in endless joy. Unite us with them in resurrection hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS**      *Intercessions and Thanksgivings follow...*      *Pastor Marschhausen*

Now I invite your prayers for all the needs of the world God so loved, silently or aloud.

*After each petition we pray, Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our Prayer.***

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**      *Reverend Johnson*

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve and keep you; *N. and N.*. God mercifully grant you the riches of grace, that you may please God both in body and soul. God make you a sign of the loving-kindness and steadfast fidelity manifest in the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior, and, living together in faith and love, may receive the blessings of eternal life. **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE PEACE**      *Pastor Marschhausen*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.      **And also with you.**

## **A PRAYER WHILE WE ARE UNABLE TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION**

*Reverend Johnson*

Preface to the Prayer: *On Maundy Thursday, we remember the last supper that Jesus ate with his friends, which has become for us the Holy Eucharist. Today, once again, we can remember the last time we received Holy Communion, and look again to receive this gift, together, in the future. And so we pray:*

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

**I am baptized into your death and resurrection.**

**I seek you daily. I worship and adore you.**

Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine,

I pray that you continue to come into my heart and soul,

as you always have, through Confession and Forgiveness,

through the proclamation of your holy Word,

and through the prayers of your people;

**that I may remain united to you**

**by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit.**

Let me receive you and be nourished by your abundant grace.

Be for me the manna in my wilderness,

the bread of angels for my very human journey through time,

a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and solace in the hour of my death.

**And return us all, Lord Jesus, to your Holy Table when this is over.**

I pray all this, trusting that you are our life,

our peace, and our everlasting joy. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Pastor Marschhausen*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING**

*Reverend Johnson*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you favor and give you peace

In the name of the Father, and of the Son **+**, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright, the sun shone out with fairer light,  
when, to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.
- 2 His risen flesh with radiance glowed; his wounded hands and feet he showed;  
those scars their solemn witness gave that Christ was risen from the grave.
- 3 O Jesus, King of gentleness, do thou thyself our hearts possess  
that we may give thee all our days the willing tribute of our praise.
- 4 O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide;  
from every weapon death can wield thine own redeemed for ever shield.
- 5 All praise, O risen Lord, we give to thee, who, dead, again dost live;  
to God the Father equal praise, and God the Holy Ghost, we raise.

## **DISMISSAL**

*Deacon Winzler dismisses the assembly...*

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the Easter good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE:** *Let All Things Now Living*

Traditional Welsh melody, arr. Cindy Berry  
*Kelly Sharp*

NOTES:

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**DAILY READINGS FOR APRIL 12-17**

**Monday, April 12**

Psalm 135

Daniel 3:1-30

1 John 2:3-11

**Tuesday, April 13**

Psalm 135

Daniel 6:1-28

1 John 2:12-17

**Wednesday, April 14**

Psalm 135

Isaiah 26:1-15

Mark 12:18-27

**Thursday, April 15**

Psalm 4

Daniel 9:1-19

1 John 2:18-25

**Friday, April 16**

Psalm 4

Daniel 10:2-19

1 John 2:26-28

**Saturday, April 17**

Psalm 4

Acts 3:1-10

Luke 22:24-30