

April 26, 2020
Third Sunday of Easter

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.
We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font,
and for all water everywhere.
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty and give us the life only you can give.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OPENING SONG

Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

#384

That Easter day with joy was bright
The sun shone out with fairer light
When to their longing eyes restored
Th'apostles saw their risen Lord

O Jesus king of gentleness
With constant love our hearts possess
To you our lips will ever raise
The tribute of our grateful praise

O Christ you are the Lord of all
In this our Easter festival
For you will be our strength and shield
From ev'ry weapon death can wield

All praise O risen Lord, we give
To you once dead but now alive
To God the Father equal praise
And God the Spirit now we raise

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

A READING FROM ACTS 2:14a, 36-41

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other

apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.”⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A READING FROM 1 PETER 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A READING FROM LUKE 24:13-35

P: The holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

¹³Now 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, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then 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. ²¹But 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. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and 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. ²⁴Some 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.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then 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. ²⁹But 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. 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, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” 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

Pastor Josh Brecht

SONG OF THE DAY

As We Gather at Your Table

#522

As we gather at your table
As we listen to your word
Help us know O God your presence
Let our hearts and minds be stirred
Nourish us with sacred story
Till we claim it as our own
Teach us through this holy banquet
How to make Love's vict'ry known

Turn our worship into witness
In the sacrament of life
Send us forth to love and serve you
Bringing peace where there is strife
Give us Christ your great compassion
To forgive as you forgave
May we still behold your image
In the world you died to save

Gracious Spirit help us summon
Other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant love will welcome
Those who had been last and least
There no more will envy blind us
Nor will pride our peace destroy
As we join with saints and angels
To repeat the sounding joy

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

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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

AM: Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

AM: Lord, in your mercy.

C: hear our prayer

AM: With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Offerings can be made online or mailed to the church office. Thank you for your continuous support to our ministry during this time.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

P: May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

#385

**Good Christian friends rejoice and sing
Now is the triumph of our king
To all the world glad news we bring
Alleluia alleluia alleluia**

**The Lord of life is ris'n this day
Death's mighty stone is rolled away
Let all the world rejoice and say
Alleluia alleluia alleluia**

**Praise we in songs of victory
That love that life which cannot die
And sing with hearts uplifted high
Alleluia alleluia alleluia**

**Your name we bless O risen Lord
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down the life restored
Alleluia alleluia alleluia**

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.

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DISMISSAL

P: Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

SENDING MUSIC

Vocal Leader: *Jamie De Geer and Doug Smith*

Musician: *Marcus De Geer*

Video/Audio: *Brandon Wade/Andrew Leach*