

The 3rd Sunday of Easter: Sun., April 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Hymns: 482, 478, 843, 813, 737, 825, 465; Liturgy: 208, 210

Easter People Rejoice



Luke reports that at seeing the resurrected Jesus, the disciples “disbelieved for joy” (24:41). The theme of rejoicing is woven throughout the Scriptures. The psalmist exhorts: “Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!” (66:1-2). The prophet Isaiah assures God’s people that they will have cause for rejoicing as he writes: “For the Lord comforts Zion... joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song” (51:3). Paul writes to people who know of the glorious

resurrection of Jesus Christ on that first Easter day: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). The season of Easter is a time for joyous praise that begins now!

482 This Joyful Eastertide



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and
2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the
3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill
slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row:
My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:
Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

Refrain

Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,
 Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -
 ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934
 Tune: Davids Psalmen, 1684, Amsterdam
 Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences *Ps. 118:24; Rom. 6:9; adapt. fr. Mt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7; Ps. 8*

- P** This is the day that the LORD has made;
- C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

- P** Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
- C** death no longer has dominion over Him.

- P** Christ has risen from the dead.
- C** God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.

- P** He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
- C** He has put all things under His feet.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.
- C** Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful, and we have not always lived as Your thankful and joyful people. We have indeed turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us all that is past, blot out our sins, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us

steadfastness among all the changes of this world and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- P** God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. May He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a victorious life on earth and finally a triumphant life with Him in heaven forever. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As well-loved Easter people, rejoice and be glad! You are free indeed!
- C** Amen.

Psalm 4

I. is spoken by left side; II, by the right.

- C** Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!
- I** *O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?*
- II** *But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for Himself; the Lord hears when I call to Him.*
- I** *Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.*
- II** *Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.*
- C** There are many who say, “Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of Your face upon us, O LORD!”
- I** *You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.*
- II** *In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.*
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn Sequence

- L** The psalmist writes, “Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him” (98:1). The strains of Easter joy echo through all the services of the Easter season. Each Sunday is a “little Easter” for us to celebrate as together we sing of the victory of our God. We are amazed Easter people, and our amazement is best expressed in our songs of

joy. One of the oldest hymns in our hymnbooks is “The Day of Resurrection,” written by John of Damascus in the eighth century. Together we sing stanza 1 that celebrates “the passover of gladness.”

478 The Day of Resurrection

st. 1

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.
 From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,
 Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79

Text and tune: Public domain

L Paul writes: “When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’ . . . But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:54, 57). The victory of Christ is the lasting source of joy that gives hope to the grieving and assurance to all the faithful. We rejoice as we sing the second stanza of “The Day of Resurrection.”

478 The Day of Resurrection

st. 2

2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
 The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
 And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,



His own “All hail!” and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79

Text and tune: Public domain

L John writes in the book of Revelation: “And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire—and also those who had conquered the beast . . . standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, ‘Great and amazing are Your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations!’” (Revelation 15:2-3). The celebration of the victory of Jesus, the Lamb of God slain for our salvation, goes on throughout eternity. We join in the joyful praise as we sing the thid stanza of “The Day of Resurrection.”

478 The Day of Resurrection

st. 3



3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,



Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.



Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;



For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray... O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Acts 3:11-21

¹¹While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded.

¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Solo: "As the Deer"

by Natalie Doering

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:36-49

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

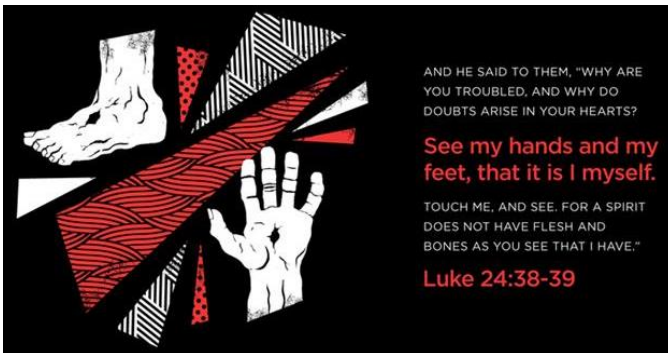
⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



Song by the School Children

God Loves Me Dearly

483 With High Delight Let Us Unite



1 With high de-light Let us u - nite In songs of great
2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
all sub-du - ing. His en - e - my Doth van - quished lie;
ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us
His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall
To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall His



free For - ev - er, He Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
be Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Saith He, who
love Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536-99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

Tune: Cinquante Pseaumes, 1543, Geneva

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Tune: Public domain

Sermon: "History," Luke 24:36-49

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs... We pray for the whole church, that the message of salvation may joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world and the forgiveness of sins be celebrated around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for the nations of the world, that governments would be a source of blessing to those who are governed and that oppression in all forms may be hindered, bringing a sense of security and well-being in every place. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for ourselves in this amazing season of our Lord's great victory that we may truly be Easter people all year long, radiating the light of Christ in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized, those who grieve, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill and shut-in, and all others whose needs are known to us... Bless them with Your presence, gracious Father, that they may have a sense of purpose in their lives and find strength and hope for each day. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful God, we bless You for having placed into our lives faithful Christian people to guide us. We remember those no longer among us on earth, who have completed their earthly races and have won the final victory in Christ. Lead us to follow in their way, that we may rejoice together eternally with saints and angels. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer. Amen.**

Offering

Preface

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 Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for You have refreshed us in the forgiveness of Christ. Pour out upon us the gift of Your spirit that with true thanksgiving we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

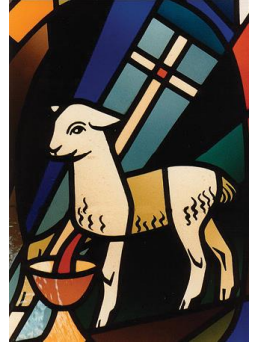
Lord's Prayer

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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Agnus Dei

LSB 210



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

sts. 1, ref, 2-4



1 Re - rejoice, O pil - grim throng! Re - rejoice, give
 2 With voice as full and strong As o - cean's
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, With all the
 4 Yet on and on - ward still, With hymn and



thanks, and sing; Your fes - tal ban - ner
 surg - ing praise, Send forth the stur - dy
 saints on earth Pour out the strains of
 chant and song, Through gate and porch and



wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
 hymns of old, The psalms of an - cient days.
 joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 col - umned aisle The hal - lowed path - ways throng.

Refrain



Re - rejoice! Re - rejoice! Re - rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-91, alt.

Tune: Arthur H. Messiter, 1834-1916

Text and tune: Public domain

737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

sts. 1-4



1 Re - rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing, A
 2 He is your trea - sure, He your joy, Your
 3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In
 4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard



cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of
 life and light and Lord, Your coun - sel - or when
 rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor
 ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in



ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.
 doubts an - noy, Your shield and great re - ward.
 cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.
 threat - 'ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. John Kelly, 1833-90, alt.

Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt

Text and tune: Public domain

825 Rise, Shine, You People



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
 He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
 Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
 All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
 To all the world go out and tell the
 Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
 driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
 sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, 1939, alt.

Tune: Dale Wood, 1934-2003

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Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray... Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Strengthen us so that we may continue to proclaim Your love to all the world and keep us to Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

sts. 1, 3



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!
heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
day That by our lives we tru - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln

Acknowledgments

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