

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Resurrection Affirmation

April 17 & 18, 2021

AS WE GATHER

“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?” (Luke 24:38). These are questions our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ asked of His disciples in another resurrection appearance after that first Easter morning. They are questions that could also be asked of us numerous times in our daily lives as we face trouble and doubts. Yet as Jesus kept on appearing, He kept on showing them Himself, and more than that, He continued to teach and remind them that all that was written was fulfilled in and through Him. Though we cannot physically touch His hands and side, each time we gather, Jesus continues to speak to us, affirming His work, the Word fulfilled, and the worth of humanity for whom He came. Amid troubles and doubts, through Christ, we can “see what kind of love the Father has given to us” (1 John 3:1).

WELCOME

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written,
"I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak,
knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus
and bring us with you into his presence. (2 Corinthians 4:13-14, ESV)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN #475 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

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; Bring flow’rs of song to strew His way;
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!

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: In your presence there is fullness of joy;

People: at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Pastor: I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up

People: and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

Pastor: O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

People: O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” Gracious Lord, by your name you have called us your own children, and we are to pray, praise, and give thanks to you.

People: Yet we often choose not to see the love you have given to us, letting other things of this world impede our vision of your mercy and grace in Christ. We do not always live as you have called us to be as your children.

Pastor: We confess our sins to God in repentance, turning from those things that lead us away, turning back to you in the love you’ve shown.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Almighty and ever-compassionate Lord,

People: we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess our many failures as we have not followed you joyfully and trustingly. We have not loved others as you have first loved us, and our thoughts, words, and deeds have not been pleasing to you. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us to delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Pastor: Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,

People: and give thanks to His holy name.

Pastor: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
People: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. 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.

Pastor: In your presence there is fullness of joy;
People: at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Pastor: “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As His children, may He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a renewed life on earth and finally a triumphant life with Him in heaven forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav’nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father’s Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow’r are seated At God’s right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father’s glory. “Amen!” our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

☩ WORD ☩

FIRST READING Acts 3:11–21 (Peter preaches salvation through Christ.)

¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon’s. ¹² And 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? ¹³ The 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. ¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And 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. ¹⁸ But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

8:00

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

Evening Choir

10:30

“Ha, la, la, le, luia”

Kindergarten

EPISTLE *1 John 3:1–7* (We are God’s children now.)

See 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. ² Beloved, 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. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. ⁴ Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SONG “Let Us Sing For Joy”

Did you hear the news? Jesus loves you so, Jesus loves you so, Jesus loves you so!
Did you hear the news? Jesus loves you so! Let us sing for joy!

Jesus died for you to take your sins away, to take your sins away,
to take your sins away!

Jesus died for you to take your sins away! Let us sing for joy!

Jesus came alive just like He said He would, just like He said He would,
just like He said He would!

Jesus came alive just like He said He would! Let us sing for joy!

Someday we will live in heaven with our Friend, in heaven with our Friend,
in heaven with our Friend!

Someday we will live in heaven with our Friend! Let us sing for joy! (Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 24:36–49* (Amid disciples’ doubts, the resurrected Christ affirms the fulfillment of God’s Word.)

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?” ³⁹ See 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.” ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴ 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And 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.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY #482 “This Joyful Eastertide”

This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!

My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow:

**Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ arisen,
Arisen, arisen; But now has Christ arisen!**

Death’s flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;

Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver: **Refrain**

My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber

Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number: **Refrain**

SERMON “*Troubles and Doubts Dispelled By a Bright Future*” **Luke 24:36-49**

(Rise)

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.

OFFERING Offering plates will be placed in the narthex and by the elevator room for gathering at the end of the service.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence for personal prayers

Pastor: Lord God, in your presence we find fullness of joy, and by your right hand, Christ Jesus, you have won for us peace forevermore.

People: In the midst of this world's sins and sorrows, give us peace in the knowledge of His salvation and confident hope in the resurrection of the dead.

Pastor: Blessed Lord, too often our hearts are troubled by the difficult times we face and sometimes we have doubts in our minds. At those times, turn us again to your word.

People: Bless us with a strong and steadfast faith in Christ that will calm our troubled hearts and give us deep conviction of the truth of our salvation in Jesus.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, by the incarnation of your Son and the reconciliation of His cross, you have made us your children and gathered us into your Holy Church.

People: Sustain the preaching of your Holy Word and its message of repentance for the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name among us and all the nations of the world.

Pastor: Give peace, O Lord, to our homes and enliven our family relationships by Christ's resurrected life. Let the forgiveness of sins reign among husband and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters.

People: Assure those who live alone that they, too, are your children who abide in your gracious presence day by day.

Pastor: Lord God, we thank you for all your gifts and blessings in life. We rejoice with Mike and Sandy Geboy as they celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary. We ask your blessings upon Drake DeMarb and Lincoln DeTroy as they are baptized into Christ this weekend.

People: Bless all the marriages of your people with holy love and bless Drake and Lincoln to be raised and nurtured in Christian faith and life.

Pastor: Almighty God, preserve our nation and its leaders, especially Joseph, our president, and Tony, our governor. Preserve order and decency in this fallen world by their hands, restrain the sins and deceptions of the lawless, and grant our leaders wisdom to handle the many challenges we face.

People: Bless us, your people, to be law abiding citizens who practice righteousness while awaiting the eternal peace promised in Christ's return in glory.

Pastor: Gracious Father, as your Son's wounds brought gladness and peace to the troubled disciples, give your presence and comfort to the troubled in our midst especially Judy, Janine, Nancy, Dorothy, Steve, Marilyn, Cindy, Arlene, Jan, Louis, Dawn, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Dennis, Diane, June, Jerry, Shirley, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah.

People: Heal the sick, comfort also those who weep, granting all your children joy, peace, and hope in the resurrection victory of Easter morning.

Pastor: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by your Son's crucifixion all sins have been blotted out. Send us now the blessed refreshment of His gracious presence in the Sacrament of the Altar, that we may be assured of His salvation.

People: Make us also to be fit partakers in repentance and faith for the forgiveness of our sins.

Pastor: All these things and whatever else you know that we need, grant us,
Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

People: Amen.

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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION *Wait for the usher to direct you to come forward. Those guests
who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do
so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or
an elder first.*

HYMN #725 "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

HYMN #633 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King.
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!

Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast-Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword:
Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas'chal victim, paschal bread; with
sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days; Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

HYMN #547 "The Lamb"

The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!

**Refrain: Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. **Refrain**

The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. **Refrain**

He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.

He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. **Refrain**

He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.

His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. **Refrain**

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us in, with, and under bread and wine with the body and blood of your dear Son. Strengthen our faith in you and in our love for others in your kingdom and throughout our community, country, and world, as we strive not only to see your love, but also continue to grow in it and be nourished through faith as your children and rejoice in the grace you give; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN #813

“Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng”

Rejoice, O pilgrim Throng! Rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With voice as full and strong As ocean's surging praise,
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old, The psalms of ancient days. **Refrain**

With all the angel choirs, With all the saints on earth Pour out the strains
of joy and bliss, True rapture, noblest mirth. **Refrain**

Yet on and onward still, With hymn and chant and song,
Through gate and porch and columned aisle
The hallowed pathways throng. **Refrain**

Still lift your standard high, Still march in firm array,
As pilgrims through the darkness wend Till dawns the golden day. **Refrain**

At last the march shall end; The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest. **Refrain**

Praise Him who reigns on high, The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, One God forevermore. **Refrain**

Preacher

Pastor Harold Bender

Liturgist

Pastor Noah Kegley

Lectors

Jodi Drew, Bob Reynolds, Pastor Doug Bender

Director of Parish Music

Michelle Prince

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