

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Worthy Is the Lamb
April 30 & May 1, 2022

AS WE GATHER

In the Reading from Revelation, John reports that he saw God's throne, where the Lamb is the only One worthy to open the sealed scrolls. Not only is Jesus holy in Himself, He makes holy all those whose sins He forgives because of His own sacrifice. Saul is a prime example. He is called by Christ to take the Gospel to the Gentiles, even though he had been looking for Christians to arrest. In their fishing attempt in the Gospel, the disciples learn that even their physical wellbeing depends on trusting their Savior's guidance. For Peter, that would also mean feeding and teaching Jesus' flock. Made worthy because of our incorporation into the Body of Christ, what are we called to do?

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death,
in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the
Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his,
we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Romans 6:4-5 ESV

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

8:00 BELLS *"Joyous Jubilee"* *"Sheep May Safely Graze"*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #907 "God Himself Is Present"

God Himself is present: Let us now adore Him And with awe appear before Him,
God is in His temple; All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone On His throne Is our God and Savior; Praise His name forever!

1 continued

God Himself is present; Hear the harps resounding:
See the hosts the throne surrounding.

"Holy, holy, holy!" Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.

Bow Your ear To us here;

Hear, O Christ, the praises That Your Church now raises.

Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit, Trusting only in Your merit.
Like the holy angels, Worshipping before You, May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will Ever still Rule Your Church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & EASTER ACCLAMATION

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!

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We have come to worship our great God. However, in our sinful condition, we cannot get near to Him. Let us confess our sins to God and one another.

People: I confess to you, heavenly Father, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in my thoughts, words, and actions. I am unable to save myself, to turn from my errors, and to atone for my sins. I plead to God for grace and mercy.

Pastor: By the grace of God, there is One who is worthy to take our requests for forgiveness to God's throne of grace. Jesus Christ alone is worthy, for He is God's own Lamb and has ransomed us from our sins by dying for us and rising in glory. He declares us to be saints, able to go to God in all confidence, and priests, offering our prayers for one another and all people. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

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

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. Refrain

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. Refrain

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

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

**People: Grant to your faithful people, rescued from the peril of
everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys;**

Pastor: 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 9:1–22* (Jesus appears to Saul, who then proclaims Him to be the Son of God.) But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.³ Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him.⁴ And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”⁵ And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.”⁶ But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice

but seeing no one.⁸ Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.⁹ And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.”¹¹ And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying,¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem.¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.”¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized;¹⁹ and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus.²⁰ And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”²¹ And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?”²² But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *Revelation 5:1–14* (Worthy is the Lamb.)

Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals.² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?”³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it,⁴ and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.⁵ And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”⁶ And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God

sent out into all the earth.⁷ And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,¹² saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

10:30 ANTHEM

"Feed My Lambs"

3K – 4K

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 21:1–19* (Jesus visits the disciples a third time after Easter as they fish.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way.² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together.³ 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.⁴ Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No."⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net on 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 of the quantity of fish.⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea.⁸ The other disciples

came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.⁹ When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread.¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught."¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn.¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish.¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.¹⁵ 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." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."¹⁶ He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep."¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved 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."¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go."¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S SONG & CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Jesus Rose for You and Me" (*tune: Jesus Loves Me*)

Jesus rose for you and me

"Alleluia" let us sing.

Someday we will live with Him

"Alleluia" let us sing.

Sing, Alleluia! Sing, Alleluia! Sing, Alleluia!

He rose for you and me.

Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
The Bible tells me so.

SERMON HYMN #537 “Beautiful Savior”

Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I’d love Thee,
Truly I’d serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow’rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr’wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration Now and forever-more be Thine!

SERMON “Worthy is the Lamb!” Rev. 5:1-14

(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.

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us lift our prayers to the throne of God’s grace, where our risen Lord Jesus continually intercedes for us.

Silence for personal intercessions

Pastor: Lord of life, we are sustained by you day by day, through your Word and precious sacraments, and you alone are worthy of all honor, praise, and worship.

People: As you have gathered us here around the proclamation of your Gospel, make us worthy to receive the good gifts of your grace and mercy for us in your Son’s death and resurrection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you have raised your Son from the dead to the praises of all angels and saints.

People: Give strength to our hearts and voices, that we would meditate on the glorious splendor of your majesty and speak of the might of your awesome deeds.

Pastor: Ever-living God, you raised up Saul from among your enemies, that he would suffer for your name. Stir up all those baptized into your name, and call many people to the service of your Church.

People: Sustain all missionaries around the world, especially Pastor Chuck Ferry and family, and uphold all who suffer for the sake your Gospel.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, one generation commends your works to another. Bless us to truly be Generations United in Mission.

People: As we have received your glorious Gospel, grant all fathers and mothers strong and joyful faith, that they may declare your mighty acts to the generation to come.

Pastor: Lord enthroned in heaven, you have ordered all the nations of the earth and have set your Church among them to shepherd them unto eternal life.

People: Hear the prayers we offer for our rulers, the president, the congress, and all who make and judge our laws. Grant them to serve with integrity, faithfulness and in peace.

Pastor: Compassionate Lord, you are glorified in the sufferings of your faithful people. Teach us to trust you through all our trials, and graciously bear up those who struggle among us who suffer affliction and difficulty, especially Brian, Steve, Norma, Dorothy, Brian, Vern, Amy, Cathy, Jim, Mike, Vern, Elaine, Dorothy, Cindy, Don, Shirley, Richard, Helga, Louis, Dawn, Carol, Sarah, Debbie, Steve, Mary, June, Jerry, Shirley and Sarah.

People: Grant them healing, hope, and faith, that they would know and rely on the fullness of your love.

Pastor: Eternal Lord, you have prepared a feast again for us on this morning, bestowing upon us the blessings of your Son's death and resurrection.

People: Help us to rejoice greatly in this gift of His body and blood and to receive it to our eternal good, that we, too, would rise at the Last Day.

Pastor: God of every good and perfect gift, we thank you for the gift of life and rejoice with Dee as she celebrates her 92nd birthday.

People: Fill us with thankfulness for all the people you place in our lives and help us to see them as precious gifts from you.

Pastor: Eternal God, the resurrection of Christ brings us the certain hope of life everlasting for those who die in the faith. Bless all who mourn. Give comfort and peace to Berta, Steve, and LeAnne as they remember Bill.

People: Give us all a strong and steadfast faith in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

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

People: 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

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #774 "Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy"

Feed Thy children, God most holy; Comfort sinners poor and lowly.

O Thou Bread of Life from heaven, Bless the food Thou here hast given!

As these gifts the body nourish, May our souls in graces flourish

Till with saints in heav'nly splendor At Thy feast due thanks we render.

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**

HYMN #643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever living,
The tasks of our ev'ry day life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a
foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body
and blood.

**People: Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage
that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your
saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom
which has no end;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN #469 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today!" Saints on earth and angels say;
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.

Love's redeeming work is done, Fought the fight, the battle won;
Lo! Our Sun's eclipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led; Foll'wing our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
Thee we greet triumphant now: Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Director of Parish Music

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