

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran

2nd Sunday in Easter – April 16, 2023



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

Risen Christ, we give you thanks for the grace filled waters of baptism that lead us from death to life!

Your Spirit comes and revives us like rain to a thirsting earth!

Breathe your peace upon us when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy, forgiveness, and peace.

Cleanse our hearts, Risen One!

Bring us to resurrected life in You!

With joy we celebrate our Lord's victory over sin and death!

We are His people and sing His praise forever! **Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG: "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done" ELW 366

GREETING:

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray: **O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath, revive our faith in your mercy and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and

foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 16

¹Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

**²I say to the LORD, "You are my LORD;
I have no good apart from you."**

³As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.

**⁴Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.**

⁵The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

**⁶The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.**

⁷I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

**⁸I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

**¹⁰For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

¹¹You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Celtic Alleluia"

ELW 174



GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 20th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When 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.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.”

²⁶A 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.

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

SERMON SONG: “Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”
(Verses 1-3)

ELW 377

SERMON

Dave Grafstrom

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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” (Verse 1) *ELW 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!

OFFERING PRAYER:

O Mighty One, you have done great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all that we offer you – ourselves, our time, and our possessions – that through us, your grace and favor may be made know to all the world for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

PRAYERS:

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Holy One who acts righteously, equip your church as witnesses to go out and tell others of your abundant love, that they may believe that Jesus is our salvation and life.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Renew your people's commitment to use resources responsibly and to live well with your creation. Invite us to recognize and nurture signs of resurrection life in the natural world.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Direct those who are given human authority to lead with humility and compassion. By your Holy Spirit channel their attention toward serving those who are most in need.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold your children who cry out to you (*especially those we name in our hearts ...*). Wherever people are overcome by fear, breathe into them your life and peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us the words of your saints who, like Thomas, boldly confessed your Son as Lord and God. With Jesus our leader, empower us to live according to his ways.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER:

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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:

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you his peace.

SENDING SONG: "On Our Way Rejoicing"

ELW 537

DISMISSAL:

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God!



HE IS RISEN
alleluia