

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024
Service of Holy Communion**

PRELUDE

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the Holy Trinity+ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. Your ark carried your creation through the flood and into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG

"Come, You Faithful Raise the Strain"

#363

1. **Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.**
2. **'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen.
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
from the Light to whom we give laud and praise undying.**
3. **Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strain Jesus' resurrection!**
4. **Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal, hold you as a mortal:
but today, among your own, you appear, bestowing
your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.**

5. **Alleluia! Now we cry to our Lord immortal,
who triumphant burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal;
Alleluia! With the Son God the Father praising;
Alleluia! Yet again to the Spirit raising.**

GREETING

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This Is the Feast"

p.140-141

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! *Refrain:***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. Almighty God,

**with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us,
enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SR. CHOIR ANTHEM

"Risen Indeed"

by Pote

SECOND READING

1 John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p.142

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
 Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 20th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where they disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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." A 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." Then 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But 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.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ann Marshall

HYMN OF THE DAY*"Christ Has Arisen! Alleluia!"*

#364

1. **Christ has arisen, alleluia! Rejoice and praise him, alleluia!**
For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia.
2. **For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed.**
He who gives life did death undergo, and in its conquest his might did show.
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia.
3. **The angel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for Jesus who is not here.**
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare. Only the grave clothes are lying there."
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia.
4. **"Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has risen this world to save.**
Jesus' redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won."
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia.
5. **Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be.**
Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia.

NICENE CREED

With the whole church let us confess our faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth of all that is seen, and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

(brief silence)

Petitions end: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERING SONG

"Come to the Table of Mercy"

#481

**Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.
All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.
Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(sung)*

p.144

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

p.144

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

"Lamb of God"

p. 146

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.

"I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light"

#815

1. I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
2. I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.
Refrain.
3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain.*

"Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen"

#548

1. Rise, O church, like Christ arisen, from this meal of love and grace;
may we through such love envision whose we are, and whose, our praise.
Alleluia, alleluia; God the wonder of our days.
2. Rise transformed, and choose to follow. After Christ, though wounded whole;
broken, shared, our lives are hallowed to release and to console.
Alleluia, alleluia; Christ, our present, past, and goal.
3. Rise, remember well the future God has called us to receive;
present by God's loving nurture, Spirited then let us live.
Alleluia, alleluia; Spirit, grace by whom we live.
4. Service be our sure vocation; courage be our daily breath;
mercy be our destination from this day and unto death.
Alleluia, alleluia. Rise, O church, a living faith.

TABLE BLESSING

At the conclusion: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion: Amen

SENDING

BENEDICTION

At the conclusion: Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Thine Is the Glory"

#376

1. Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
2. Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more that conqu'rors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE