

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**April 11, 2021**  
**Service of Holy Communion**

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**PRELUDE****GATHERING****THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed! Alleuia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We thank you, risen Christ,

**for these waters where you make us new,  
 leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.**

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,

**Like rains to our thirsting earth,  
 like streams that revive our souls,  
 like cups of cool water shared with strangers.**

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

**Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.**

**Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.**

Make us one, risen Christ.

**Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.**

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

*“Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna”*

#383

1. **Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!**  
**Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.**  
**In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.**  
**Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**
2. **Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.**  
**Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.**  
**Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.**  
**Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**
3. **Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.**  
**Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.**  
**Tell its grim, demonic chorus: “Christ is risen! Get you gone!”**  
**God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, ev’ryone!**

**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.**

## LITANY FOR EASTER

O Lord Jesus Christ, who upon this day did conquer death and rise from the dead, and who are alive forevermore, help us never to forget your risen presence with us.

Help us to remember that you are with us

**in every time of perplexity, to guide and to direct**

Help us to remember that you are with us

**in every time of sorrow, to comfort and to console.**

Help us to remember that you are with us

**in every time of temptation, to strengthen and to inspire.**

Help us to remember that you are with us

**in every time of loneliness, to cheer and to befriend.**

Help us to remember that you are with us

**even in death, to bring us to the glory of your side.**

Make us certain that there is nothing in all creation which can separate us from you, for your presence surrounds, sustains, and supports us always.

**You turn our darkness into light, and in your light, we shall see light.**

## 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.**

#### PSALM 133

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

**It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

**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**

John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 20<sup>th</sup> 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 the 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

### HYMN OF THE DAY

*"We Walk by Faith"*

#635

1. We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here.
2. We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;  
but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:
4. For you, O resurrected Lord, are found in means divine:  
beneath the water and the word, beneath the bread and wine.
5. And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light  
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

### 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 worshiped 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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

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

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MEAL

## GREAT THANKSGIVING *(spoken)*

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.**

## 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.**

## SHARING OF COMMUNION

### COMMUNION HYMN

*"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"*

#461

1. **All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see the God is good.**
2. **All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal, taste and see that God is good.**

3. All who hunger, sing to gather, Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing. Here in peace we have been fed.  
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

**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 has won!  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded graveclothes where the body lay.  
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death has won!
2. Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;  
let this church with gladness hymn 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 has won!
3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;  
make us more than 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 has won!

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
Thanks be to God.

### **POSTLUDE**