

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021



**"AND THESE SIGNS SHALL FOLLOW THEM THAT BELIEVE;
IN MY NAME SHALL THEY CAST OUT DEVILS;
THEY SHALL SPEAK WITH NEW TONGUES;"
MARK 16:17 (KJV)**

heartjesuschrist.blogspot.com

Grace Lutheran Church

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, New Jersey 08244

Phone: 609-927-3082—Fax: 609-927-6672—Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Music Director: Mr. Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretary: Diana McArdle

Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

Welcome

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran Church. Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in the bulletin.

Mission Statement

Through God's Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be...

- Inviting all people to ***belong*** to the church of Jesus Christ,
 - Equipping those who ***believe*** as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
-

Serving in Worship Today—

Worship Assistant: Shirley Blankenship

Altar Guild: Brenda Traa

Sound Technicians: Jim Foreman, Shawn Welfield

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Servicemen and Servicewomen Serving Our Country: Members & Friends of Grace: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USMC; Sara Myers, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

Hospitalized - or in need of healing: Ruth, David, & Ric Alburger, Mary Ellen Bartholomew, June Becker, Dave Brown, Carol Campbell, Dr. Robert Carlson, Ed Carpenter, Christine Carter, Peg Cwienk, Roy Cole, Deb Connelly, Emile DeLong, Tad Dildilian, Kimberly Frawley, Ed Gannon, Jeanne Gehring, Chris Hinnant, Bob & Dona-Lee Hughes, Pat Johnson, Darryl Kashey, Joyce Kaye, Terry Kearney, Carol Traa Keates, Nancy Keirsey, Darrell Kopp, Lora, Judith & Roger Landis, Bob Loper, Susan Marich, Quinn Meldrum, Anne Moore, Tom Ostrander, Tommy Parker, Renee Pugliese, LouAnn Rest, Indigo Rose, Alan Sisson, Dana Sisson, Judy Toth, Bob Traa, Grace DiGenni Traa, Carol-Ann Tracy, George Walters, Joann Wehrhan, Joan Wisdom, & Lucy Dildilian Yannis

At Home - Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

Shores@Wesley Manor: Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Rehab@Shores of Wesley Manor: Lois Rahme

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book

Congregation responses in bold print.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

“Vruechten”
[This Joyful Eastertide]

by Keith Kolander

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom
no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of
your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your
holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given
ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things
we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you,
and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in
newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

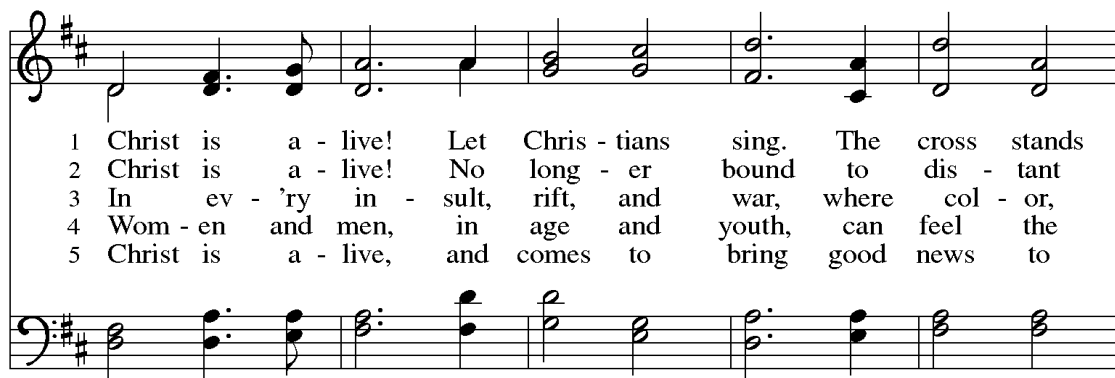
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and
made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.
In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God
strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in
your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

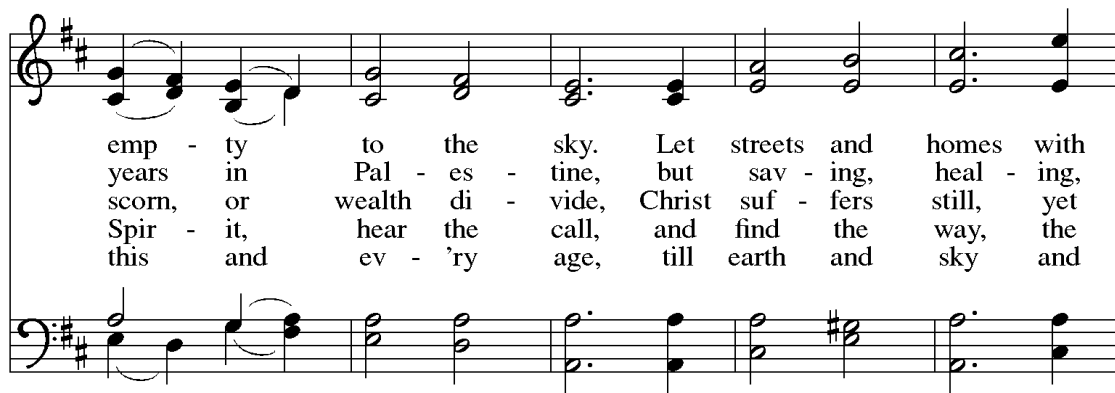
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW # 389

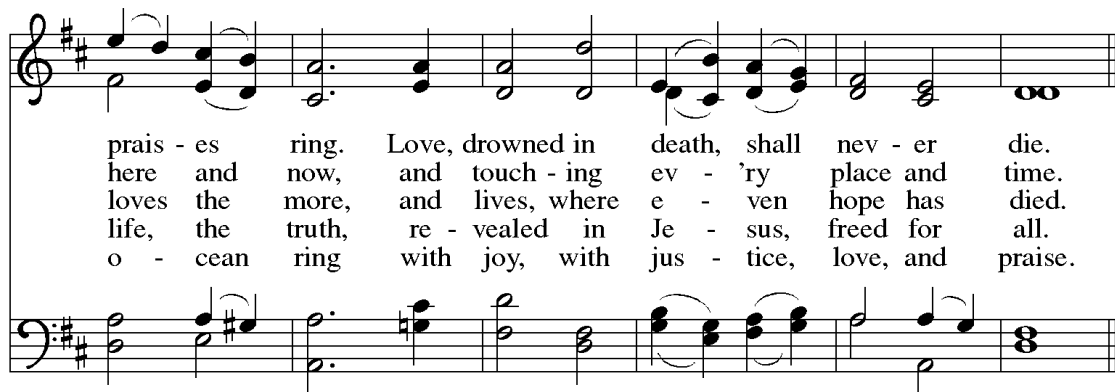
Verses 1, 3, & 5, All; Verse 2, Men; Verse 4, Women



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

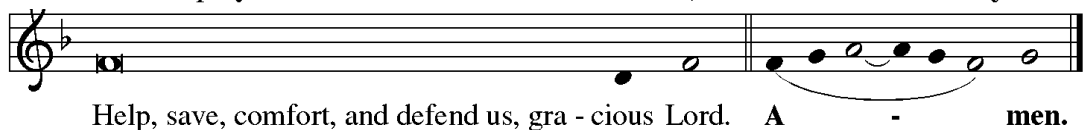
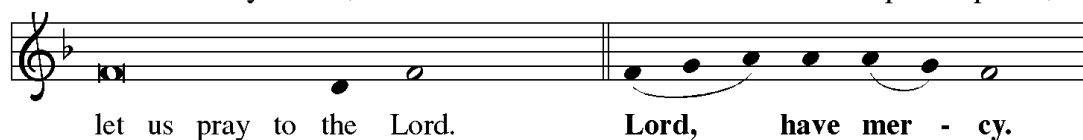
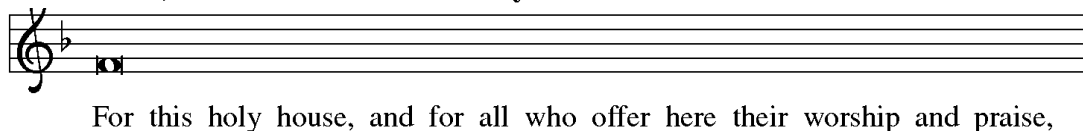
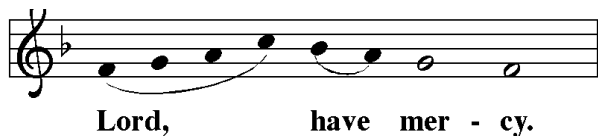
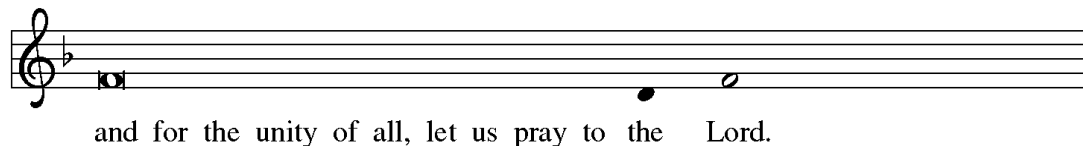
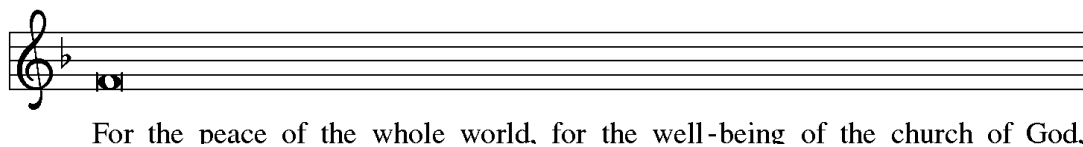
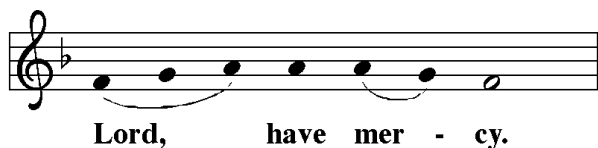
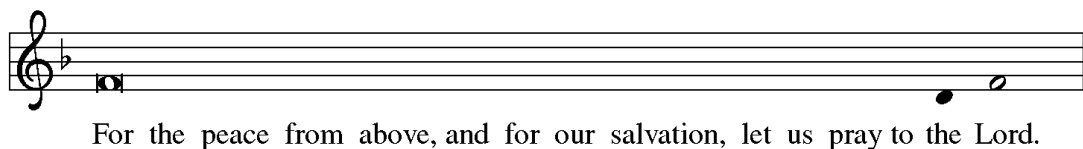
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GREETING

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.**

KYRIE



THIS IS THE FEAST

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

brief silence

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WORD

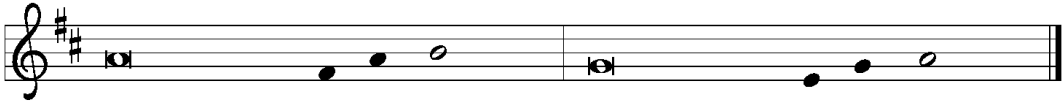
FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

A reading from Acts

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

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



PSALM: Psalm 4

- ¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.
- ²**“You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?”**
- ³Know that the LORD does wonders | for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me | when I call.
- ⁴**Tremble, then, and | do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.**
- ⁵Offer the appointed | sacrifices,
and put your trust | in the LORD.
- ⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us | any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O LORD.**
- ⁷You have put gladness | in my heart,
more than when grain and | wine abound.
- ⁸**In peace, I will lie | down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me | rest secure.**

SECOND READING: First John 3:1-7

A reading from First John.

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING: Mark 16:12-18

The holy gospel according to St Mark, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹²After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. ¹³And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them. ¹⁴Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. ¹⁵And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. ¹⁶The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Peace of the Lord

ELW # 646



1 La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la
 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the



paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the



ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -
 Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's
 Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -
 Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to



rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya
 chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for
 ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right
 share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not



mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá.
 me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.
 now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.
 live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

2 La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
 la paz del Resucitado:
 se hace presente ahora y aquí
 apréstate a recibirla;
 se hace presente ahora y aquí
 apréstate a recibirla.

3 La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
 la paz del Resucitado:
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
 apréstate a compartirla;
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
 apréstate a compartirla.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

WEEKLY OFFERING

*We are thankful for however you are able to continue supporting our ministry at Grace.
Offering may be received through the mail, church office, or Simply Giving online. Please call
the church office if you need assistance with Simply Giving, or have any questions or concerns.*

OFFERTORY

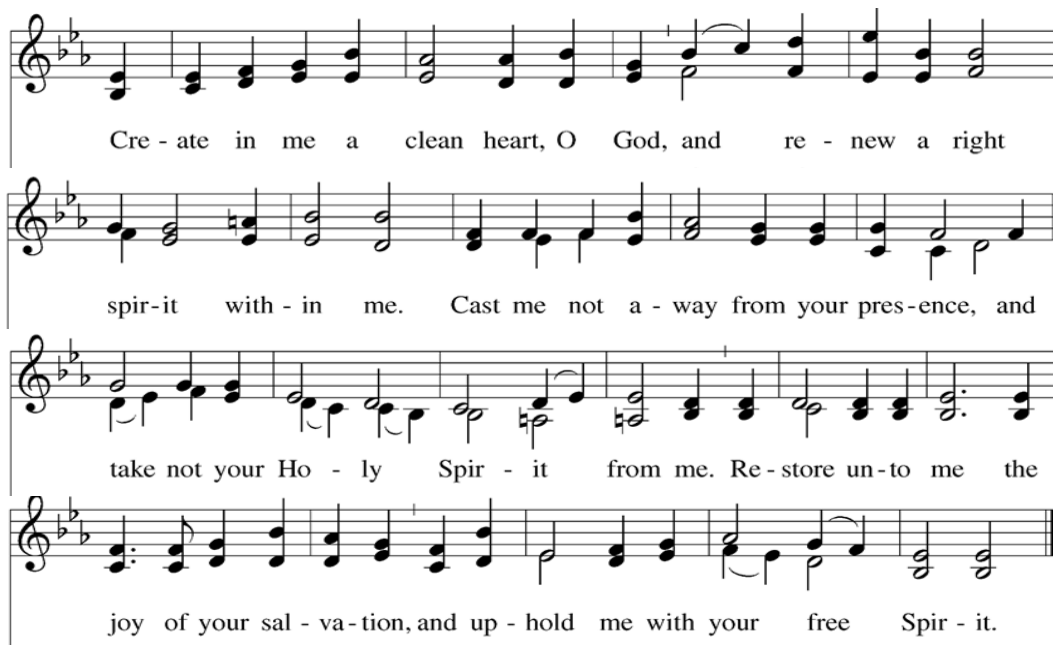
I Know That My Redeemer Liveth from G. F. Handel's *Messiah*

Arr. By Rosemary Hudler

Soprano: Ruth Bowden

Please stand as your are able

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and

take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the

joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray...Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Pastor: 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.

Brief silence.

Leader: Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the we may embody the love of Christ in all that we say and do.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. When we call on you for guidance and strength, answer us with love and with the peace of Christ. Grant your wisdom and lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and grant them health and wholeness especially all those we name aloud or in our hearts...

Be close to the hearts of all who need you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness to all the world.

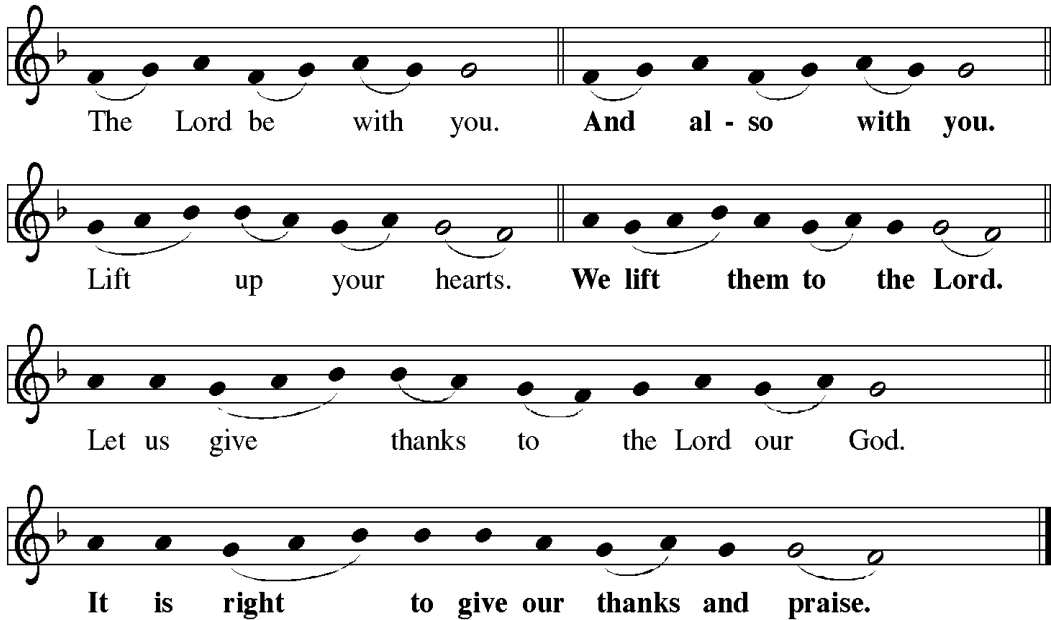
Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

May all blessing, praise, and thanks be to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

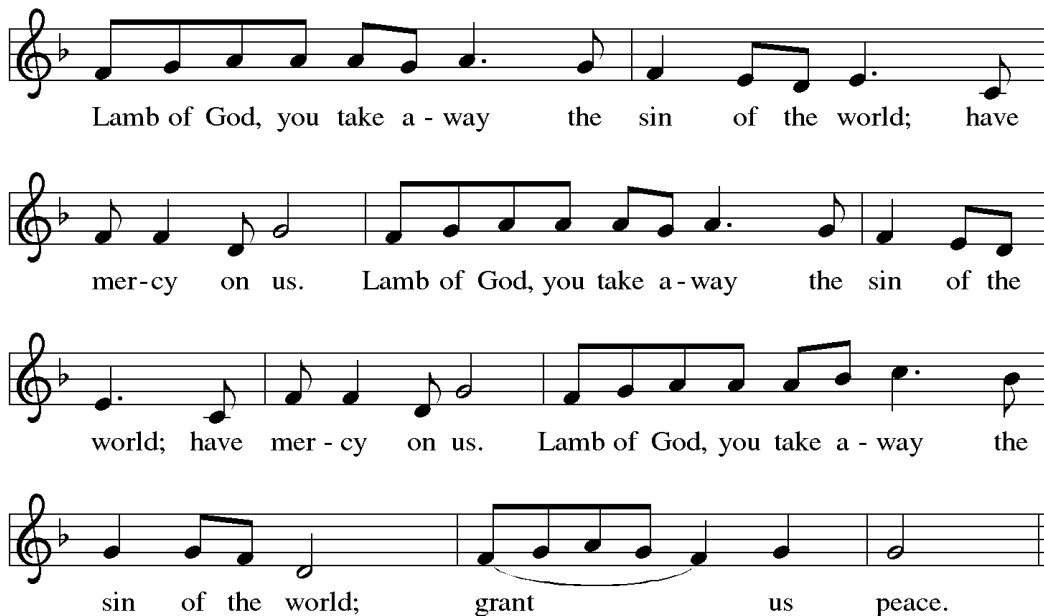
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come to us, Lord Jesus.

COMMUNION HYMN



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

We will partake of the bread and grape juice together.

Wait for direction from the pastor.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **God's love endures forever.**

Let us now commune with the Lord together.

This is the body of Christ given for you. **Amen.** *(brief silence)*

This is the blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.** *(brief silence)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.

Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

This Joyful Eastertide
music is located on the next page

ELW # 391

Please be seated for the postlude.

Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate the message presented today.

POSTLUDE

Truro

[Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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SENDING SONG

This Joyful Eastertide

ELW # 391

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son
 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the

sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
 slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall
 riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my

sprung to life this mor - - row.
 wake the dead in num - - ber.
 pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

Refrain

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our

faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -

ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
 Music: Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Events This Week - April 18 - 25, 2021

Sunday 4/18 Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service
Holy Communion

Monday 4/19

9:00—11:30 am—Food Pantry

7:00 pm - AA Meeting - Social Hall

Tuesday 4/20

9:00—11:30 am—Food Pantry

6:30 pm - NA

7:00 pm - Church Council Meeting

Wednesday 4/21

7:00 am - Food Delivery for the Pantry

9:00—11:30 am—Food Pantry

7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall

Thursday 4/22

5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Friday 4/23

10:30 am - Grace Stitches

Saturday 4/24

Sunday 4/25 Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am—Spoken Service - Lounge

10:15 am - Liturgical Worship Service
Holy Communion



2021 FLOWER CHART is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. Available for weekly dedications are Candles, Sanctuary Flowers, Bulletins, Wine & Anthems. Please sign your name next to the date and item on the chart you wish to have dedicated in the bulletin.

Be sure to fill out the payment envelope with all the information for the bulletin, a week before (or sooner) your desired date, place it in the Offering plate or bring to the church office. Thank you, Diana

Available Dedications on the Flower Chart

4/25 - Candles, Flowers, Bulletins,
Wine, Music
5/2 - Candles, Bulletins, Wine, Music
5/9 - Candles, Bulletins, Wine, Music
5/16 - Candles, Bulletins, Wine, Music
5/23 - Candles, Bulletins, Music
5/30 - Bulletins, Wine, Music
6/6 - Flowers, Bulletins, Wine, Music
6/13 - Candles, Bulletins, Wine, Music

Dedications

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

In Loving Memory of Frank
on our Anniversary day 4/18/1964
Given by Diana McArdle

CANDLES

In Memory of my wife Louise
Given by H. H. "Skip" Uhrmann