

# The Divine Service

## The Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023

### AS WE GATHER

We gather today still in the glow of the most joyous and amazing celebration of Easter, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, from the dead. The sights and sounds of that celebration linger in our memory, not as just a past event finished and forgotten, but as Peter calls it today, “a living hope,” as enduring and strong as the certainty of our living Lord and the promised future of our own resurrection. We return to continue the Easter celebration because in the afterglow of the days since Easter Sunday, many still do not know that hope. Like the absent apostle Thomas, we still face what seems to be a hopeless world. Today we remember that our only hope is built on a divine Savior whose crucifixion wounds were endured for us and for all. Indeed, we are to learn that every Sunday throughout the entire year is an Easter celebration as our living Lord draws us into His holy, life-giving wounds through His very same body and blood given us in Holy Communion. Thomas saw and believed. Peter rejoiced. Though we do not now see Him, “you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory” (1 Peter 1:8), the only sure and living hope.

### Prelude

### Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

People: **Amen.**

### Confession and Absolution

Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: **have mercy on us. We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

Pastor: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

## Processional Hymn

### "O Sons and Daughters of the King"

LSB 470 verses 1,2,5



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly  
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful  
5 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard That they had



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!  
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.  
seen the ris - en Lord, He doubt-ed the dis - ci - ples' word.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## Greeting

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

People: **And also with you.**

## Kyrie

Cantor: *In peace, in peace...*

### Refrain

Assistant:

Congregation:



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,



Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: *For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the ... Refrain*

Cantor: *For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the ... Refrain*

*Assistant:*



Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*




God. A - - - - - men.


**Hymn of Praise: "Now the Feast"**

**Refrain**


*Congregation:*




Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,




all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and




free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -



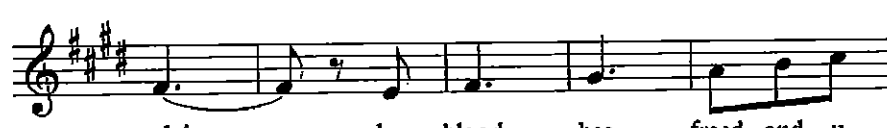
er - more!

**Verse 1**


*Congregation or Congregation 1:*



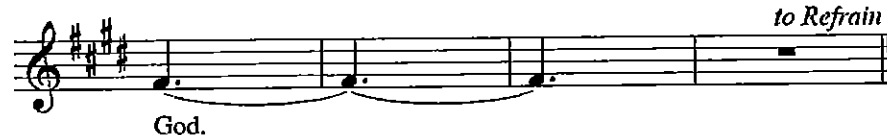
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once



slain, whose blood has freed and u -



nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of



God.

*to Refrain*

**Verse 2**  
*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and  
 might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
 for ev - er. *to Refrain*

**Verse 3**  
*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to  
 make us peo - ple of God; to make  
 all things new. *to Refrain*

### Salutation

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful God and Father, the hope of all who put their trust in You, by Your Word and Sacrament this day grant us steadfast faith in our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, a cheerful hope in Your continued mercy, and a sincere love for You and our neighbor; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Rite of Holy Baptism

8:30 AM

## Today's Scripture Readings

### The First Reading

*Acts 5:29-42*

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." <sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. <sup>38</sup>So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; <sup>39</sup>but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, <sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle

*1 Peter 1:3-9*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Processional *(Stand as you are able.)*

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

### Holy Gospel

*John 20:19-31*

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." <sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." <sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Hymn of the Day "In Christ Alone"

### Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

### Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

### Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

### Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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Sermon "I Doubt It!"

Pastor Scott Henze

Apostles' Creed

11:00 AM Only

**People: 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.**

**Prayer of the Church**

*Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."*

## Offering

### Offertory Prayer

**Pastor:** God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given us and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen. *From Sundays and Seasons, © 2009 Augsburg Fortress.*

***A word about Holy Communion:*** *We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.*

### Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

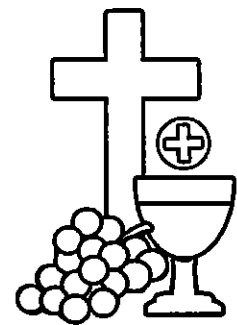
**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



#### Proper Preface

### The Lord's Prayer

**Pastor:** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**



## The Peace of the Lord

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

People: **And also with you.**  
(The congregation and may greet each other)

## Agnus Dei

(Congregation may be seated following the Agnus Dei)



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha-tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus-tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



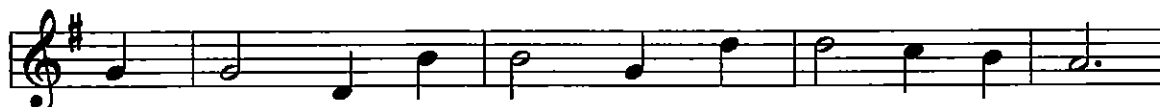
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.



## Hymns during Distribution:

### "He's Risen, He's Risen"

LSB 480



1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry  
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,  
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.  
The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.  
And death, hell, and Sa - tan He van - quished, His foes.  
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.



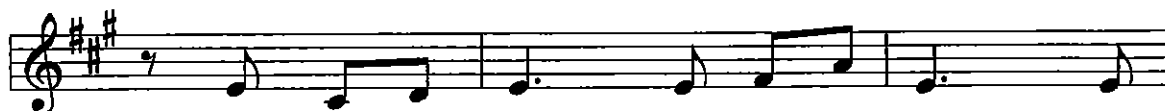
Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,  
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts His ban - ner on high;  
For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.  
For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.  
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nev - er - more die.  
Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.

# "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

LSB 720



1 We walk by faith and not by sight, No  
2 We may not touch His hands and side, Nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And  
4 For You, O res - ur - rect - ed Lord, Are  
5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In



gra - cious words we hear From Him who spoke as  
fol - low where He trod; But in His prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound To call on You when  
found in means di - vine: Be - neath the wa - ter  
realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You



none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.  
we re - joice And cry "My Lord and God!"  
You are near And seek where You are found.  
and the Word, Be - neath the bread and wine.  
as You are, With full and end - less sight.

## Closing of the Table

**Post-Communion Canticle:**

*Congregation:*

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
 2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
 Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
 you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your  
 love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of

life with us. 3. Praise to you, O  
 God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for  
 ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Text and Music: Mary Haugen; © 1990, GLA Publications, Inc.

## Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

## Benediction

## Announcements

## Recessional Hymn

### "On What Has Now Been Sown"

LSB 921



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;  
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou  
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -  
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!  
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.  
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

## Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!