

The Divine Service

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Sometimes the simplest of words carry the greatest of importance. As Jesus speaks with the doubting disciple Thomas gathered in a special room with the disciples a few days after the resurrection, He says simply, "See." But that is all He needs to say. It confirms the powerful truth that He is indeed arisen from the dead. Today we are faithful people gathered in many different rooms—but also with those who are disciples of the Lord in Spirit. And He has promised to be with us and among us today. As we worship, we will see signs of His abiding presence.

Call to Worship "Easter Song"

Words of Welcome/Theme of the Day

Remembrance of Baptism

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the (†) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Blessed by God, who chose us in Christ, let us come to the God of mercy.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

P Faithful and living God,

C **We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

P In this is love, not that we have loved God but that God loved us and sent his Son to atone for our sins. In the name of † Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

C **Amen.**

Processional Hymn "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

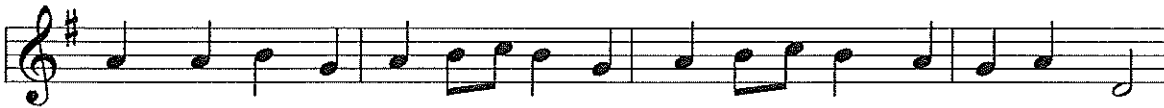
LSB 477



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:
△ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic-tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—
Once He died, and once was bur-ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir-it, Fount of love and sanc-ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor-ship and a - dore.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Greeting

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your Grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 5: 29-42

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. 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. And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. 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. 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. 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; 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, 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. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3-9

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, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 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. 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, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Processional "Halle, Halle, Halle"

Congregation sings refrain; cantor sings Easter verse.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, 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 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."

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." 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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.

4 **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

"We Believe"

Deborah & Diego Carvajal

VERSE 1

In this time of desperation
When all we know is doubt and fear
There is only one foundation
We believe we believe
In this broken generation
When all is dark You help us see
There is only one salvation
We believe we believe

CHORUS

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again
(We believe)

VERSE 2

So let our faith be more than anthems
Greater than the songs we sing
In our weakness and temptations
We believe we believe

BRIDGE

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised
In the here and now let love invade
Let the church live loud our God will save
We believe we believe
And the gates of hell will not prevail
For the pow'r of God has torn the veil
Now we know Your love will never fail
We believe we believe

ENDING

He's coming back again
He's coming back again
We believe we believe

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Sermon

"I Doubt It"

Pastor Scott Henze

Apostle's Creed

☩ 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, "In the name of the risen Lord."

Congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

Gathering of Gifts

Offertory Prayer

P 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 offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

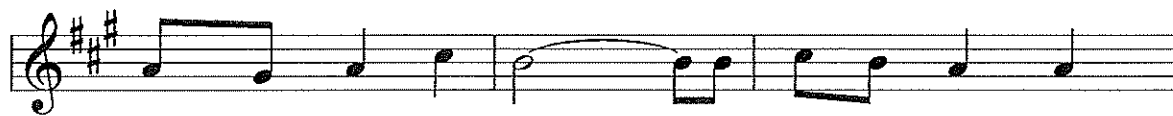
Benediction

Recessional Verse "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

LSB 720, verse 1-5



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

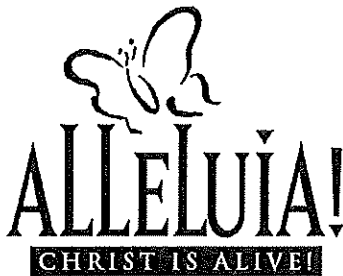


none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.
we re - joice And cry "My Lord and God!"
You are near And seek where You are found.
and the Word, Be - neath the bread and wine.
as You are, With full and end - less sight.

Easter Acclamation

- P** Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
P Christ indeed has been raised from the dead.
C Christ is risen!
P He is risen indeed!
C Alleluia!

Thank you for worshiping with us today. I hope and pray you had a chance to see Christ in a very personal and real way. If you have a prayer request or would like to talk to the pastor or one of our Stephen Ministers contact the church office at 954-384-9096 or by email at office@stpaulweston.org.



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.