

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
April 14, 2024  
Third Sunday of Easter



**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!**

**Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.**

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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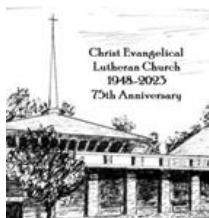
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**Interim Pastor:** Rev. Laura Kuntz

**Office Administrator:** Heather Nordman    **Organist:** Randi Smarsh

**Custodians:** Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick    **Sanctuary and Bell Choirs:** Johanna Markko



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**C: Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: 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. The ark carried your creation through the flood 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!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## The Day of Resurrection!



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.  
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;  
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry,  
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.  
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!  
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

## GREETING

**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.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*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

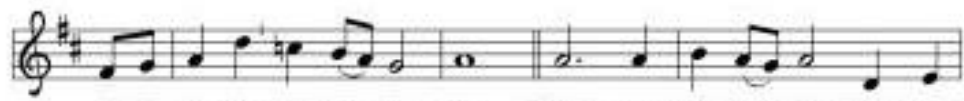


who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*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*



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray. 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.

**C: Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

*Children dismissed for Sunday School.*

## FIRST LESSON Acts 3:12-19

**L:** The first lesson is from Acts, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

<sup>12</sup>[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?"<sup>13</sup>The 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. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And 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. <sup>17</sup>“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

## PSALM 4 TONE



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## REFRAIN



The LORD does wonders for the faithful.

Psalm 4:3  
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.  
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- <sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender<sup>1</sup> of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and<sup>1</sup> hear my prayer.
- <sup>2</sup>**“You mortals, how long will you dishon-<sup>1</sup> or my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek<sup>1</sup> after lies?”**
- <sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders<sup>1</sup> for the faithful;  
the LORD will hear me<sup>1</sup> when I call.
- <sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and<sup>1</sup> do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence up-<sup>1</sup> on your bed. R**
- <sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed<sup>1</sup> sacrifices,  
and put your trust<sup>1</sup> in the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, “Who will show us<sup>1</sup> any good?”  
Let the light of your face shine upon<sup>1</sup> us, O LORD.**
- <sup>7</sup>You have put gladness<sup>1</sup> in my heart,  
more than when grain and<sup>1</sup> wine abound.
- <sup>8</sup>**In peace, I will lie<sup>1</sup> down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me<sup>1</sup> rest secure. R**

## SECOND LESSON      1 John 3:1-7

L: The second lesson is from 1 John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>See 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. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, 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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: The word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

## GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their

presence. <sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Laura Kuntz**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 522**

**As We Gather at Your Table**



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um-phantly Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,





teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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## NICENE CREED

**C:** 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

A: 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.

*A brief silence.*

A: O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty especially those we say aloud or silently in our hearts... God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for this community of faith and for its Call Committee. For your wisdom and love. Give us holy indifference that we may be indifferent to our own will. Through your Holy Spirit, help us to be unwilling to do anything but your will. Give us patience and guidance as we seek to know what you would like us to do. Bless all that we do, so that we can do what you bless. God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

**C: And also with you.**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## OFFERING

### “In the Garden”

Frank Lee

I come to the garden alone. While the dew is still on the roses and the voice I hear falling on my ear. The Son of God discloses.

#### *Refrain*

And He walks with me, and He talks with me, And He tells me I am His own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing.  
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing. *Refrain*

I'd stay in the garden with Him, though the night around me be falling. But He bids me go; through the voice of woe. His voice to me is calling. *Refrain*

C. Austin Miles Public Domain

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. 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 Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

## DIALOGUE

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes.

Staff 1: The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Staff 2: Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Staff 3: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Staff 4: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

P: 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In 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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In 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. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C: 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.**

## LAMB OF GOD



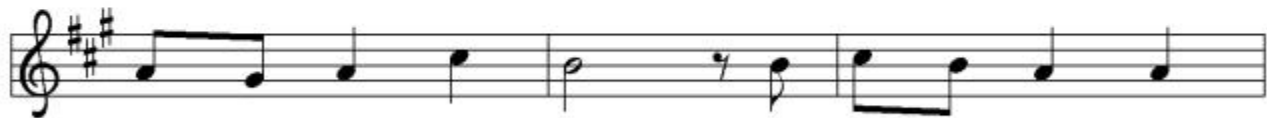
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## We Walk by Faith



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your 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 may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - jice, 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.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.  
 Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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## I Received the Living God





1 Je-sus said: I am the bread, knead-ed long to give you life;  
 2 Je-sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;  
 3 Je-sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.  
 4 Je-sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



you who will par-take of me need not ev - er fear to die.  
 so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.  
 You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.  
 but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous  
 Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Let us pray,

**C: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

## Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
 2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?  
 3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;  
 4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.  
 5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom - y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,  
 Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,  
 joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;  
 Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.  
 Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
 lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his church be - low.  
 with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.  
 Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.  
 Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
 Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

**DISMISSAL**

**P:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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