

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 15, 2018

8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Spirit works faith in us to recognize the Risen Christ within us, enlivening us as his witnesses, and among us, in the word and meal and each other.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion as we celebrate the presence of Jesus among us. As you prepare for worship, please fill out worship information sheets in the red folders in each pew.

Congregation responses in **Bold**. *Those who are able, please stand.
A children's Wiggle Room is available in the back of the sanctuary.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE RISEN SAVIOR

PRELUDE

WELCOME/GREET ONE ANOTHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Loving God, love us into the joy that sees beauty in every person.

Love us into the generosity that offers forgiveness to others.

Love us into hope that sweeps away despair.

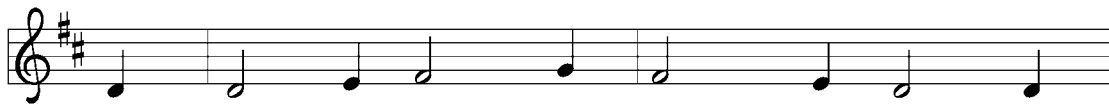
Love us into curiosity that resists apathy.

Love us into caring for the stranger and the outsider and the lonely ones.

Love through us in a world that is hungry for love. Amen.

*GATHERING SONG

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The grace of our risen savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with us all.

Alleluia, we give thanks.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. Amen.

WE HEAR THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE

FIRST READING 1 John 3:1-7

Listen to a reading from First John:

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. 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.

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

*SONG

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Good news from Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things." (NRSV)

The good news of the Lord.

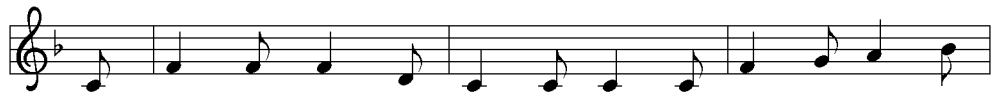
Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Dan Kahl

*SONG OF THE DAY

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835
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*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**

*PRAYERS

Enlivened in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the life of the church, for those in need, and for all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Holy, reconciling God, open our hearts and minds to receive you in the scriptures and in holy meal.

Send us forth for the healing and redemption of the world.

Renew areas of your creation where cold and dormancy is giving way to warmth and new life.

Reveal your life-giving action throughout all of creation.

Usher in peace where lawlessness and disorder reign.

Send your calming Spirit to ease tensions and to encourage ways of living beyond conflict and oppression.

Be present at celebration tables, increasing the joy of those who gather for birthdays, weddings, and parties.

Be present at empty tables, filling the hungry and the lonely with hope. Answer the cries of those who are ailing (*especially*), those who are brokenhearted, and all who seek your mercy.

Deliver them from affliction, and turn their cries to shouts of praise.

We remember the lives of the saints who shared their faith with us.

Guide us by your Spirit to live in truth, as we long for the day when we shall live in your fullness.

Trusting in your abundant mercy, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray into your care, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING

Jubilate Deo

Choir

*OFFERING PRAYER

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. Amen.

Welcome to this celebration of Holy Communion. All are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood. Today distribution will be pouring chalice. Please come forward by the side aisles, commune and return to your seats by the center aisle.
Gluten-free elements are available.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The peace and joy of the loving, living Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to our loving God.

It is our joy to give thanks and praise.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615
Text © 1958, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

***INVITATION**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em-braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes



1 Peace, to soothe our bit - ter woes, God in Christ on us be - stows;
2 Peace with - in the church still dwells in our wel - comes and fare - wells;



Je - sus bought our peace with God with his ho - ly, pre - cious blood;
and through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r peace sur - rounds our dy - ing hour.



peace in him for sin - ners found is the gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
Peace be with you, full and free, now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God, we give you thanks for nourishing us with the bread of heaven and the wine of love, Jesus our risen Savior. As you send us into the world, guard us from the power of evil, keep us in unity with all your people, and by your Spirit move us to testify to your grace in our words and actions; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*BLESSING

Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death, lift you up and restore you to wholeness. **Amen.**

Jesus Christ, the Word of life, bless you and send you to be his witnesses.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh you in the gift of baptism this day and always. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SENDING SONG

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the sun shone
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with con - stant
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in this our
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to you, once



out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing
love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 4th or 5th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PUER NOBIS, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

POSTLUDE