

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hermiston, Oregon

Christ Alone Lutheran Church, Ione, Oregon



Hymn #465 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

- 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 2 Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 4 Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessèd sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Easter Dialog

adapted from Revelation 1 & 7*

P: Grace and peace to you from the One Who is, and
the One Who was, and the One Who will be
From the sevenfold Spirit before His throne;
And from Jesus Christ – He is the Faithful Witness,
the First of the dead to live again and the Ruler over the kings of the earth.
To Him Who loves us
and by His blood has freed us from our sins,
and has made us a kingdom,
priests to God and His Father
— to Him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Pastor: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The uncountable multitude of nations standing before the throne of the Lamb cry out
with a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, Who sits on the throne, and to the
Lamb.”

And all the angels standing around the throne worship Him saying:

“Amen!

Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks
and honor and power
and strength
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession of Sins and Declaration of Grace

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our
Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our
help is in the name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth. I said, I will confess my
transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

All: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

New Testament Lesson

Acts 5:29-42

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But 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. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For 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. ³⁷After 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. ³⁸So 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; ³⁹but 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, ⁴⁰and 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. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the

name. ⁴²And 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. Thanks be to God!

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen from the dead.

**[God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor,
He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
He has put all things under His feet.**

Epistle Lesson

I 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, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so 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. ⁸Though 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, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Twentieth chapter. 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." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶Eight 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn #720 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" SUNG TO: "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight,
 No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
 But we believe Him near.

- 2 We may not touch His hands and side,
 Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice
 And cry "My Lord and God!"

- 3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
 And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
 And seek where You are found.

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Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

P: ..."don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just

as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection.” (Romans 6:3-5) Since God has made us His children through our baptism into Christ, with trust and hope, let us confess our faith:

**All: 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**

The Litany of the Resurrection

P: O Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, have mercy.
O Lord, have mercy.
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
C: hear us.

P: Paschal Lamb, Who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world;
Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification;
Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,"

C: have mercy on us.

P: Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light;
Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women;
Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,
Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,
Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe;
Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish;
Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road;
Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,

C: have mercy on us.

P: By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,
By Your victory over sin and death,
By the majesty of Your risen body, good Lord, deliver us.
We poor sinners implore You

C: to hear us, Lord Jesus.

P: That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness;
That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving as we have been served by You;
That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,

C: grant us, good Lord.

The petitions of the Church are now offered . . .

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world,

C: grant us Your peace. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Taught by our Lord Jesus, and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

All: 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 Benediction

P: May the God of peace, Who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him,

C: through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

Hymn #480 "He's Risen, He's Risen!"

- 1 He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death's prison, the incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.
- 2 The foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.

- 3 But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,
And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes.
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.
- 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.
- 5 Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

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