

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2020

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hermiston, Oregon

Christ Alone Lutheran Church, Ione, Oregon



Hymn #469 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

“Christ the Lord is ris’n today!”
Saints on earth and angels say;
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, reply.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise;
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save;
Where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led;
Foll’wing our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

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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.

P: 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: After His resurrection, Jesus said to His disciples: “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you.” And with that He breathed on them and said,

“Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” JOHN 20:21-23

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

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 1:17-25

If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from

the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake,²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;²⁴ for

“All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers, and the flower falls,

²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

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

Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:13-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened.¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.¹⁷ And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad.¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”¹⁹ And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning,²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.”²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther,²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took

the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ³³And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

Hymn #476 "Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow?"

Who are you who walk in sorrow
Down Emmaus' barren road,
Hearts distraught and hope defeated,
Bent beneath grief's crushing load?
Nameless mourners, we will join you,
We who also mourn our dead;
We have stood by graves unyielding,
Eaten death's bare, bitter bread.

Who is this who joins our journey,
Walking with us stride by stride?
Unknown Stranger, can You fathom
Depths of grief for one who died?
Then the wonder! When we told You
How our dreams to dust have turned,
Then You opened wide the Scriptures
Till our hearts within us burned.

Who are You? Our hearts are opened
In the breaking of the bread—
Christ the victim, now the victor
Living, risen from the dead!
Great companion on our journey,
Still surprise us with Your grace!
Make each day a new Emmaus;
On our hearts Your image trace!

Who are we who travel with You
On our way through life to death?
Women, men, the young, the aging,
Wakened by the Spirit's breath!
At the font You claim and name us,
Born of water and the Word;
At the table still You feed us,
Host us as our risen Lord!

"Alleluia! Alleluia!"
Is the Easter hymn we sing!
Take our life, our joy, our worship
As the gift of love we bring.
You have formed us all one people
Called from ev'ry land and race.
Make the Church Your servant body,
Sent to share Your healing grace!

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Sermon

The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
Whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
Who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. 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: *(after raising individual petitions)* Lord Jesus Christ, to You we commend all for whom we pray, crying out to You . . .

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

C: Amen.

#474 "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!"

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

Trumpets resounding in glorious light!

Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!

Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Walking the way, Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Jesus the vine, We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing to me.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent:
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!"
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

City of God, Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM!
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

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