



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 4, 2025 ✕ 8:00 AND 10:15 AM

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

BECAUSE HE LIVES...

WE HAVE A BIG NEW REASON

Why?

That's always the biggest question and the hardest to answer.

We humans like to have reasons for things. We like to know what causes other things. We like to tell ourselves that we have good reasons for doing what we do.



Easter provides a big, new answer to that ultimate question.

Why live? Why try? Why go to work? Why do hard things? Why does anything matter? Why church? Why serve others?

We have a great big reason for all of it: Jesus lives!

We trust, we hope, we serve, we suffer, we witness, we live... all because he lives!


THE DIVINE SERVICE

 *The congregation speaks and sings the words in BOLD type.* 

HYMN 454 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

PLEASE STAND.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son  and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Matthew 28:19

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Psalm 32:1-2

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,


and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

HYMN 438, ST.1+2

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1-22

Paul experienced a life-changing turn-around. On the road to Damascus, everything changed. He went from persecutor of Christ to proclaimer of Christ. And why? What caused his whole new life? Christ's resurrection from the dead. The Risen Christ appeared to him, brought him to faith, and called him into service.

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

"Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who

appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. All those who heard him were

astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Revelation 5:11-14

What is the reason for all our praise and worship of God in this life and in eternity? The Lamb who was slain, but also risen from the dead. He lives!

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb

be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”

The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1:10

Alleluia! Christ Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:1-14

It was natural for the disciples to go back to what they knew: fishing. But now, they had a whole new reason for everything they did, including fishing for people with the gospel of Christ. Jesus lives!

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into

the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When

they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." So Simon Peter

climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY Long Before the World Is Waking



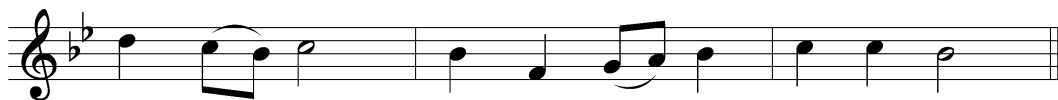
1 Long be - fore the world is wak - ing, morn - ing mist on
 2 So they cast, and all their heav - ing can - not haul their
 3 Char - coal em - bers bright - ly burn - ing, bread and fish up -
 4 Christ is ris - en! Grief and sigh - ing, sins and sor - rows,
 5 Morn - ing breaks, and Je - sus meets us, feeds and com - forts,



Gal - i - lee, from the shore, as dawn is break - ing,
 catch a - board; John in won - der turns, per - ceiv - ing,
 on them laid; Je - sus stands at day's re - turn - ing,
 fall be - hind; fear and fail - ure, doubt, de - ny - ing,
 par - dons still; as his faith - ful friends he greets us,



Je - sus calls a - cross the sea, hails the boat of
 cries a - loud, "It is the Lord!" Pe - ter waits for
 in his ris - en life ar - rayed, as of old his
 full and free for - give - ness find. All the soul's dark
 part - ners of his work and will. All our days, on



wea - ry men, bids them cast their net a - gain.
 noth - ing more, plung - es in to swim a - shore.
 friends to greet, "Here is break-fast; come and eat."
 night is past, morn - ing breaks in joy at last.
 ev - 'ry shore, Christ is ours for - ev - er - more!

SERMON Acts 9 Our big new reason

Please stand

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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

Heavenly Father, with joy the Church continues to celebrate the Resurrection victory of Your beloved Son. Look in Your mercy on all who have been baptized into His death and resurrection, and grant them grace each day to die to sin and rise to newness of life with Him. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Fountain of mercy, You call Your people to love and to serve those in need. Pour out Your blessing on the mercy ministries of our Synod, and of Your whole Church, that through their devoted service many may come to know and praise Your unspeakable kindness and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Giver of the life that never ends, receive today our heart-felt thanks for all Your servants who have departed this life in saving faith and who live with You forevermore. In Your boundless love, bring

us with them to share in the joys of the new heavens and the new earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for..

Holly (hospitalized), Harry (Nancy Brandt's brother-in-law with serious health struggles), Frankie (Robyn's young friend with cancer), Tim (Paul and Emma Porter's brother-in-law with cancer), Chaunc (Krystal's son), JoElla (recovering from radiation treatment), Craig (chronic back issues), Janice and Julia (cancer diagnosis), Paul (Pam Farrel's nephew with serious health issues), Angie (Mert and Francine's daughter with health issues), Mona (health issues) and Crissy (cancer), Barb (health issues), Nick and May (family loss), John Farrell, Felix, Orion, Lindsey, building project at Prince of Peace

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING



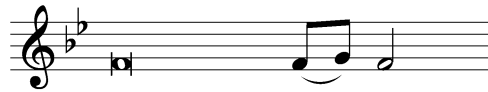
Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.

To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.

THE SACRAMENT

Stand



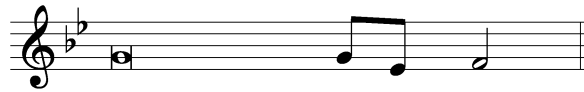
The Lord be with you.



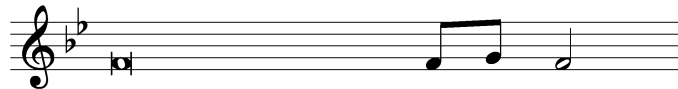
And al - so with you.



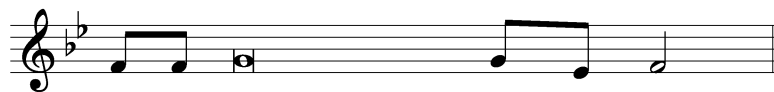
Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,

God of might. Heav-en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. 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, ho -
san - na in the high - est!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his

suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. **Amen.**

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 WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

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

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' This phrase is repeated on the first two staves and the third two staves. The final staff concludes with the lyrics: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace.'

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS *Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.*

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!**

HYMN 445 He's Risen, He's Risen

HYMN 675 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Your ✚ sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN 447 Christ Is Risen, He is Risen Indeed



Thank you to Amy Sehloff for using her gifts to serve us and our Savior with music this morning!

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