

Service of the Word – The Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Roanoke, VA

PRELUDE: *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* – Anne Krentz Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG: *We, Who Once Were Dead*



- 1 We who once were dead now live, ful - ly know - ing Je - sus
2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us
3 He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us. On him
4 Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing; we shall



as our head. Life is o - ver-flow-ing when he breaks the bread.
strength to fight; death is all a-round us. Je - sus, be our light.
we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.
then re - main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.

5 Jesus, you were dead,
but you rose and, living,
made yourself our bread,
in your goodness giving
life though we were dead.

6 This is your design;
in this meal we meet you.
Be our bread and wine,
Jesus, we entreat you.
This shall be our sign.

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

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

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

A reading from Acts.

¹²[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?¹³The 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. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: *This Joyful Eastertide* – arr. John Ferguson

Brynn Scozzari and Evan Odson, soloists

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow.

My flesh in hope shall rest
and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood has lost its chill
since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver.

*Had Christ, who once was slain,
not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain.
But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.*

- text by George R. Woodward

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

A reading from First John.

¹See 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *With High Delight Let Us Unite*

1 With high de - light let us u - nite in
 2 True God, he first from death has burst forth
 3 Let prais - es ring; give thanks, and bring to
 songs of sweet ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, all
 in - to life, all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my now
 Christ our Lord ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed by
 bear your part, sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To
 van - quished see; his death has been death's un - do - ing. "And
 word and deed to ev' - ry land, ev' - ry na - tion. So
 set us free for - ev - er, he is ris'n and sends to
 yours shall be like vic - to - ry o'er death and grave," said
 shall his love give us a - bove, from mis - er - y and
 all earth's ends good news to save ev' - ry na - tion.
 he, who gave his life for us, life re - new - ing.
 death set free, all joy and full con - so - la - tion.

NICENE CREED

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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. We pray this week for **Tommy Duncan, Barbara McLelland, and Christie Scott**. Attend to the needs of those we name before you now. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love,
we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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**

PRAYER FOR OUR TIME

Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious God,
we pray for your guidance as we live out our callings in a world still in the grip of a pandemic.

Give your peace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones.

Give your strength to those who suffer illness.

Give your presence to those who remain isolated.

Give your healing skill to those who provide medical care.

Give your wisdom to local and world leaders.

Help us to remain patient and hopeful in the days and weeks ahead. While we follow an unfamiliar path, remind us that you are with us always. Grant us courage to persevere, serving you as we serve others in Jesus' name.

Amen

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

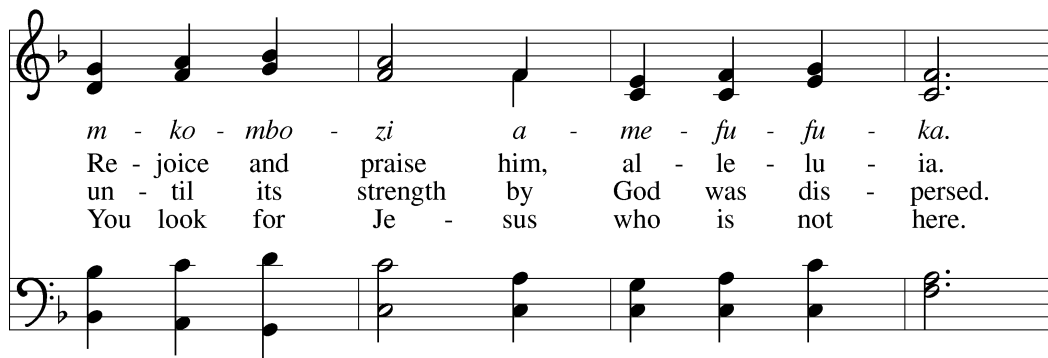
The God of life,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen

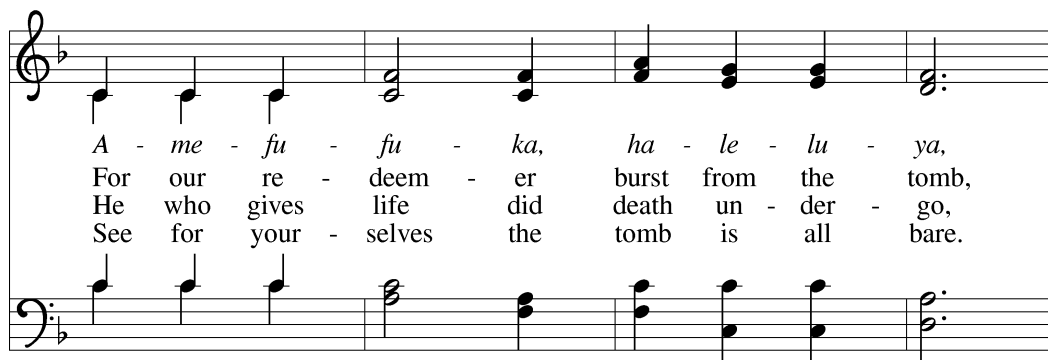
SENDING SONG: *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* (stanzas 1, 2, and 5)



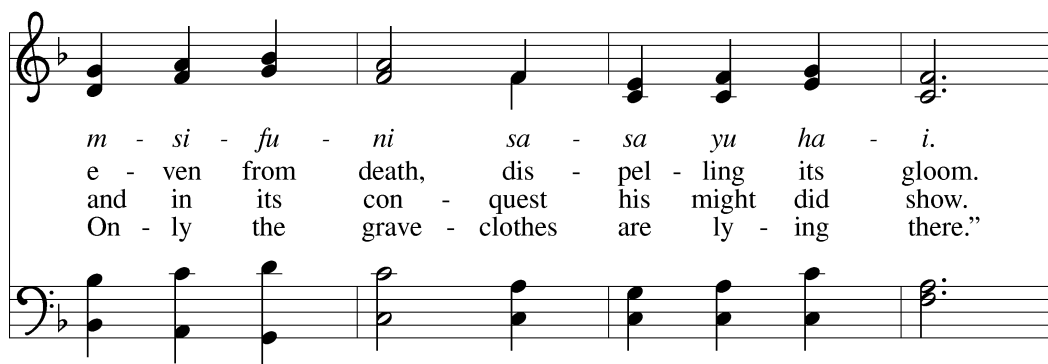
M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.



m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.
 Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.



A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



m - si - fu - ni sa - sa - yu ha - i.
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 and in its con - quest his might did show.
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

- 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has arisen this world to save.
 Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
 Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*
- 5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
 Alleluia, to him praises be.
 Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
 he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

Refrain

Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.
 Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace, loving God and loving your neighbor. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

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