

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 11, 2021

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

P: Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

P: Amen.



GATHERING SONG: “Thine is the Glory” verse 1 Accompanied by Val Bushnell

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the vict’ry thou o’er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away.
Kept the folded grave clothes where the body lay.

Chorus:

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another...

Most merciful God,

P: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

P: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

P: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 133

¹How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

²It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1 — 2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life —

²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have communion with us; and truly our communion is with the Father and with Jesus Christ, the Son. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from Jesus Christ and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have communion with God while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have communion with one another, and the blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make God a liar, and God's word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, ²who is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL READING: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Judeans, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas said to Jesus, "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 come to believe."

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 Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing, you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Pastor Paul Strike

SONG: "Thine is the Glory" verse 2

Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!

Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;

Let his church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing

For the Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.

Chorus:

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;

Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won!

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

THE OFFERING

Looking for a way to give to support Trinity ministry? Simply text the amount you'd like to give to 833-610-0635. Kathy will also continue to check the mail and make deposits weekly. Thank you for your generous giving that enables continued ministries.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of steadfast love, you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

On this second Sunday of Easter, let us pray for all in any need, responding to each petition with the words **“Send us your peace, O God.”**

A brief silence.

O faithful God, grant the joy of your peace to our pastors, to all those who minister among us, and to all the baptized, especially during times of hardship. Help us to support one another's churches, to cease rivalries, and to strengthen our ecumenical contacts. Hear our prayers for the church:

Send us your peace, O God.

Grant the beauty of your peace to all of nature, its springtime flowers, its wildlife, its terrains. Restore waters, cleanse the air, and save lands that have been misused. Inspire us to care for the whole of your creation. Hear our prayers for the earth:

Send us your peace, O God.

Grant the power of your peace to the nations of the world. Halt all impulses toward violence between nations, in our city streets, and inside our homes. Lead our government into wise decisions concerning migrants, especially the youths. Bring an end to ethnic prejudices in our land, and guide judges and juries to enact justice throughout each court proceeding. Hear our prayers for this country:

Send us your peace, O God.

Grant the abundance of your peace to all agencies of care in church and government. Show us the best ways to uphold and support those in need. Inspire children to share. Open our hearts to a world so filled with suffering and make us always more generous with the gifts you have given us. Hear our prayers for a world of good will:

Send us your peace, O God.

Grant the well-being of your peace to all who suffer. Visit all who are ill, especially those suffering from Covid-19, those without access to the vaccines, and those with strained medical resources. Comfort with your merciful presence those who are distanced from family and friends and all who are lonely or distressed. Receive our prayers especially for

The Tomaich family, Craig Godmare, Danny Bushnell and family

Hear our prayers for the sick:

Send us your peace, O God.

Grant each of us the hope that comes with your peace. Comfort each of us in sorrow, and receive our silent requests.

A longer period of silence.

Hear us as we pray for ourselves:
Send us your peace, O God.

We praise you for embracing your people with the wounded arms of Christ, and we bless you for all who died in the faith. At the end of all things, bring us with them into your everlasting peace. Hear our prayers for life beyond our understanding:
Send us your peace, O God.

In praise for the new life you grant us in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

P: 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 BLESSING

L: May our glorious God grant us a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: "Thine is the Glory" verse 3

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life,
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Chorus:

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won!

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

P: Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia

AFTER THOUGHTS

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

From Fear to Freedom

The disciples had good reason to be afraid. Their teacher, perceived as a threat to social, political, and religious order, had just been crucified; now with rumors swirling about his mysterious resurrection, it wasn't clear if Jesus' followers would face the same dire fate on a cross. Today, most of us, fortunately, can live without fear regarding when and where we are able to worship. At the same time, when we take a moment to look at the world around us, it doesn't take long to notice what a strong influence fear has on our lives.

Fear not of things like tornadoes or spiders or bats, but rather fear of things that keep our hearts closed off from others and God and that keep our truest selves locked up inside. As it was for the disciples in today's reading, our unaddressed fears can get in the way of our recognizing what Jesus is doing in our midst. They turn us in toward ourselves rather than outward toward those who could be blessed by our gifts and who need our care and love. They keep us from growing in our relationship with God and as the people God has created us to be.

Although it can be scary to acknowledge our fear of being inadequate or of losing control or of being alone, or whatever our deepest fear may be, when we do, that's when something powerful can happen. A sense of peace and joy is never far away. Not only are we released from our fear, but giving voice to our fears can set others free from theirs as well.

When Jesus appeared to those first disciples locked together behind closed doors, he came offering peace, and he breathed on them the Holy Spirit. In that moment their lives were changed—forever, and for good. The same is true for us when we dare to surrender our fears to God and embrace God's future for us with courage.

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“Peace Be With You”

