

Easter 3, April 18, 2021      Order of Worship

**Easter Shout of Joy:** (repeat 3 times)

P: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Announcements, Concerns, Joys**

**\*Confession and Forgiveness** (Some of these words are in our second reading today)

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our 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. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**    *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!* (public domain) (vv. 1,2,3)      LBW 147, ELW 380,  
HP 1491

*Hallelujah! Jesus lives! He is now the Living One;  
From the gloomy halls of death Christ, the conqueror, has gone.  
Bright forerunner to the skies of his people, yet to rise.*

*Jesus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mournful sigh?  
He who died our brother here lives our brother still on high,  
Lives forever to bestow blessings on his Church below.*

*Jesus lives! And thus, my soul, life eternal waits for you;  
Joined to him, your living head, where he is, you shall be too;  
With the Lord, at his right hand, as a victor you shall stand.*

**\*The Kyrie**

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.**

**\*Prayer of the Day** 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.**

**Children's Message**

**A reading from Acts, the 3rd chapter (3:12-19)** After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name (*Sundays & Seasons*, 2020, Augsburg Fortress, p. 168).

*People were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though Pilate had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.*

*Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."*

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

**Hymn of Praise**      ***Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!*** (public domain) (vv. 4, 5)      LBW 147, ELW 380  
HP 1491

***Jesus lives! Let all rejoice. Praise him, ransomed of the earth.  
Praise him in a nobler song, cherubim of heav'nly birth  
Praise the victor king, whose sway sin and death and hell obey.***

***Hallelujah! Angels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.  
Let your chorus swell the strain which our feebler voices raise:  
Glory to our God above and on earth his peace and love!***

**A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter (3:1-7)**

***How great is the love the Father has lavished on 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.  
Beloved, 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. And all who  
have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.***

***Everyone who sins breaks the law, for sin is lawlessness. But you know that Christ appeared  
so that he might take away our sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps  
on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do  
not let anyone led you astray. Those who do what is right are righteous, just as he is  
righteous. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

**\*Alleluia!**      ***Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!***

**\*Gospel**      **Luke 24:36b-48**  
Before the gospel: ***Glory to you, O Lord!***  
After the gospel: ***Praise to you, O Christ!***

**Sermon**

**\*Hymn of the Day**      ***The Day of Resurrection!*** (public domain)      LBW 141, ELW 361  
St. John: sing to *Lead On, O King Eternal*      HP 621

***The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,  
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,  
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.***

*Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light.  
And list'ning to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
His own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the glad refrain.*

*Now let the heav'ns be joyful, let earth its song begin,  
The world proclaim his triumph and all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen, their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end!*

**\*The Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

***ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN!***

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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 Prayers of the Church** (from *Sundays & Seasons*, 2020, p. 168, Augsburg Fortress)

Alive in the risen Christ, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear and answer us.

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 may embody repentance and forgiveness to all nations in the name of Jesus. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration, and provide to all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. 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 wisdom and 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. To those who are sick and suffering, grant your compassion and bring them back to health and wholeness. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving Parent, in your bountiful love you have given us the status of your children. Reveal yourself to us so that this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. 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.**

### **Celebration of Holy Communion**

**Words of Institution**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Receiving the Sacrament**

**Communion Blessing and Prayer**

### **Benediction**

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 Hymn**      *That Easter Day with Joy* (public domain) LBW 154, ELW 384, HP 1380  
St. John—sing to *On Jordan's Banks*, LBW 36

***That Easter day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light  
When to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord!***

***O Christ, you are the Lord of all in this our Easter festival,  
For you will be our strength and shield from every weapon death can wield.***

***All praise, O risen Lord, we give to you, once dead, but now alive!  
To God the Father equal praise, and God the Spirit, now we raise!***

### **\*Dismissal**

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Now go in peace and share the good news! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**