



3rd Sunday in Easter  
Sunday, April 26, 2020

**PRELUDE:**  
*Stay with Us*

John Behnke

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

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.**

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

Most merciful God,

**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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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  $\text{✝}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing!*

ELW 389



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

A reading from Acts.

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the people:]

<sup>36</sup>“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified to be both Lord and Messiah.”

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup>Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls.” <sup>40</sup>And Peter testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup>So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

A reading from 1 Peter.

<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup>Christ was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through Christ you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene, two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup>He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>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 took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the

tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

# HYMN OF THE DAY

## *Come, Let Us Eat*

ELW 491



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
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Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt.  
Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

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## **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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Open the doors we close, O God, when we fear those who worship you in different ways. Guide us to unity and harmony so that we may come to respect and cherish our commonalities. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Open the paths we ignore, O God, when we prioritize financial gain and convenience over listening to the groaning of the earth. Inspire all to care for the world you have made so that living things might thrive. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Open the rooms we lock, O God, to those who live without a homeland or place of safety. We pray that generous nations offer refuge and peace for all. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Open the hearts we close, O God, to the cries of those in pain. We pray for those isolated physically or emotionally through incarceration, addiction, mental illness, chronic suffering, grief, and all in need (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially those who find themselves in harm's way. (*Here other worldwide ministries may be named.*) Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Open the way to eternal life, O God, as we remember those who have died in faith (*especially Olavus Petri and Laurentius Petri, renewers of the church*). Free us from the fear of death, that we embrace the peace you have promised. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 112)**

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.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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