

Zion Lutheran Church, Glen Rock, PA
Third Sunday of Easter
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, April 18, 2021

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN: “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain” LBW 132 vs. 1,5**

**1. Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel Into joy from sadness,
Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot Through the Red Sea waters.**

**5. Alleluia! Now we cry To our King immortal,
Who, triumphant, burst the bars Of the tomb’s dark portal.
Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel Into joy from sadness!**

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 LESSON: Acts 3:12-19

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.

PSALM: Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;

you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:1-7

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 ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

CHILDREN’S TIME AND SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”* LBW 144 vs. 1,4

- 1. Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4. Your name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord,
The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

***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.**

***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.

A brief silence.

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. Provide 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 lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. 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 (*especially*). Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in 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.

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.

OFFERTORY INTERLUDE

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.

Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

***COMMUNION**

As the pastor says the following words, please take a piece of bread.

The body of Christ, given for you.

Amen.

As the pastor says the following words, please take a drink of wine or grape juice.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen

***SENDING HYMN: “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won!”** LBW 133 vs. 1, 2

- 1. Jesus lives! The vict’ry’s won! Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death’s reign is done! From the grave will Christ recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.**
- 2. Jesus lives! To him the throne There above all things is given.
I shall go where he is gone, Live and reign with him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.**

POSTLUDE

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Today’s communion elements are sponsored by Dave & Shirley Seitz.

Today’s altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God, by Linda & Clay Beegle.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 04/25/21

Acts 4:5-12, Ps 23, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

PRAYER REQUESTS

Kim, Cecilia and family, Jill Dehoff, Jim Ebaugh and family, Lind Frey, Irene Grogan, Nancy Heltzel, Linda Kowalewski, Don Miller, Brian Phelps, Jim Ream, Susan Scheungrab, Steve Scott, Alice Simmons, LeMos & Susette Stallard, Earl Williams, Marian Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Services are videotaped and streamed live each week. The focus of the recording is at the front of the sanctuary, but it is possible during recording that people attending the service will be filmed. If you have any concern about being filmed, please contact the office at 717-235-3276.

Letters of Thanks:

Friends of Zion, Thank you for the “goodies” and beautiful cards. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I miss seeing your smiling faces. God Bless You.

Norma Innerst

I can’t thank you enough for all of the “Easter Goodies”. I loved everything! I tell my family and friends that I go to a real nice church and it’s filled with wonderful people. I can’t wait until I get my 2nd shot so that I can return. See you all real soon. Take care.

Fondly, Shirley Henry

Next Sunday is Loose Change Sunday. April is Organ Donation month. April's offering will benefit Donate Life America. Thousands die every year waiting for a donated organ that never comes. When 1 person signs up to be an organ donor, he/she can save the live of 8 people and enhance the life of 75 others. Sign up now to end their wait.

Sign-up sheets are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary, for sponsoring communion supplies and flowers.

Upcoming Lectors:

April 18 – Carrie Miller

April 25 – Susie Hengst

Council Offering Duty:

April – Donna Price and Edgar Davis

May – Joy Keller-Brown and George Brown

If you desire pastoral care or conversation, please contact Pastor Katie Brantner at 717-420-0779.

PERSONNEL here at ZION

Pastor Paul Haack, Stated Sunday Supply Pastor

Pastor Katie Brantner, Interim Pastoral Care Coordinator...717-420-0779

Darryl Engler, Organist

Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant

Natalie Walker, Custodian

Chad Fisher, Sexton.....717-891-5327

Joy Keller-Brown, Council President.....717-235-7044

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joy Keller-Brown, Donna Price, Bill Ream, Tom Bailey, Susan Hengst, George Brown, Carrie Miller, Edgar Davis and Gevene Harden

OFFICE HOURS

The office is now open to in person visits. It is best to contact Brenda before stopping in the office because she is still splitting her time working at home and in the office. Brenda can be reached at 717-235-3276 in the office, or on her cell phone at 717-793-7236.

FINANCIAL Information for YOU

Weekly Contributions and Expenses

2021 Weekly contribution goal to cover budget expenses: \$2,471.00

4/11/2021 Regular Contributions \$ 564.00

Other Contributions/Gifts +\$ 0.00

-\$ 25.00 *Dedicated Dollars*

\$ 539.00 Contributions to cover Expenses

Weekly Expenses: \$ 0.00

Cumulative Contributions and Expenses for 2021

Regular Contributions \$ 23,316.91

Other Contributions/Gifts + \$ 5,410.73

Dedicated Dollars - \$ 5,988.92

Contributions to cover Expenses \$ 22,738.72

Expenses to date: \$ 36,520.51

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