

Christ
is
Risen!

Grace Lutheran Church
Hastings, Michigan

Third Sunday of Christ's Resurrection

April 26, 2020

We celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead every Sunday. It is because of his death and resurrection that we are assured of forgiveness from our sins, and everlasting life with God. The liturgical colors are white, a color of triumph and glory, and gold, a color of joy.

NEW LIFE! The birds have started building their nests again. Life has entered another cycle. We Christians know that Easter life has sprung, but we might be as blind as the disciples on the Road to Emmaus. We might not see the good that is surrounding us and the life we are given through the resurrection power of God. God invites us to see the good that we are given. God invites us to live the resurrection. God invites each of us to journey into life.

Announcements

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Gathering Music

Easter Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- ☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- ☑ **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

- ☐ The grace and peace of Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead to bring everlasting hope, be with you.
- ☑ **And also with you.**



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son
 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
 slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall
 riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.
 wake the dead in num - - ber.
 pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

Refrain

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934

Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

Prayer of the Day

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread.
- ☛ **Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

Ⓔ A reading from **Acts**:

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter 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. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Ⓔ Word of God, word of life.

☛ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19



¹I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

**²for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave | came upon me;
I came to | grief and sorrow.

**⁴Then I called upon the name | of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, | save my life.”** 

¹²How shall I re- | pay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?

**¹³I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God’s people.

**¹⁵Precious in your | sight, O LORD,
is the death | of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I | am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me | from my bonds.

**¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the LORD.** 

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God’s people,

**¹⁹in the courts of | the LORD’s house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. | Hallelujah!** 

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

☐ A reading from **1 Peter**:

⁷If 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. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him 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.

²²Now 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. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

☐ Word of God, word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!

ELW 364

Stanzas 1 & 4

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.
Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!
Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

- 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*

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

☐ The Holy Gospel, according to **Luke**.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then 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?" ¹⁹He 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, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But 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. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,

²³and 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. ²⁴Some 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.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But 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. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They 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?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

📖 The Gospel of the Risen Christ.

🎉 Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Time

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

Message

Silence for reflection



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,
 2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,
 3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.
 4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.
 blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,
 This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign;
 bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,
 yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing
 when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,
 Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.
 our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.
 there Christ is with us in bread and wine.
 that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Apostles Creed

A We confess our faith as one body in Christ Jesus:

G 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.***

- Ⓐ For the diverse natural world: for jungles, prairies, forests, valleys, mountains, and for all the wild and endangered animals who call these spaces home, that they are nurtured and protected. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ For broken systems we have inherited and that we continue to perpetuate, forgive us. Restrain the nations from fighting over limited resources. Redeem us from the cycles of scarcity and violence. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military: *Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Alexis and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley, Carlos Garcia (Burdicks), Brandon and Stevi Kay Miller (McManaway), Brady Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkulas), Kayla and Lance Champaco (Pohls), and Julia Ehredt (Schrieners, Halsteads)*. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ For all who call upon your healing name, give rest. Stay with us, and walk with all those who are hungry, friendless, despairing, and desiring healing in body and spirit including *Gary Burdick, Penny Burdick, Ellie Clark, James Colvin, Ron Coplin, Kay Corrigan, Irene Corr, Sue Eifler, Mike Fruth, Karl Golnek, Delmer Hansen, Larry Hansen, Mike Hoppe, Phyllis Hoppe, Lee Hoppe, Richard Meade, Mike Shoemaker, Tim Sullivan, George Ulrich Jr., Jenni Ulrich, The Pat Wagner Family, The Leroy Westphal Family, Rusty Wilkins, Cameron, Vicky, Nora, Lynnze, and Tristin*. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ God of all generations, we praise you and thank you for children of all ages. From those who are days old to our oldest member here at Grace of 100 years old. We ask you to help us be open to your direction as we seek a Youth and Family Committee chair. We thank you for our interim chair. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**
- Ⓐ For the faith forming ministries of this church. For those preparing for baptism, first communion, confirmation, and membership. For those who participate in Sunday school and adult education; guide and inspire learners of every age and ability. Hear us now as we lift our individual prayers that are spoken aloud or in the silence of our hearts.
Here other intercessions may be offered.
- Create in our hearts a yearning to rest in your promise of eternal and resurrected life. Give us thankful hearts for those who have died, even as we look forward to the hope of new life with you. Lord, in your mercy.
- ☑ **(sung) Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now 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.

Offering of Gifts and Music

Offering Song

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

ELW 721



Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is



ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Offering Prayer

☐ Let us pray . . . Be known to us, O Lord, as you were made known to the disciples.

☑ Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

☐ The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

☑ And also with you.

(We share the peace of the risen Lord with one another.)

Lord's Prayer

- ☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- ☑ **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Mission Minutes

Blessing

- ☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- ☑ **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- ☐ The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, the blessing of + Christ, the Lamb who was slain, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth be among you and remain with you always.
- ☑ **Amen.**

Sending Song

We are Baptized in Christ Jesus

ELW 451



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus, who is ris - en from the dead,
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin-ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin-ning, glo - ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Dismissal

☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen.

☑ **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

☐ You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Are You the Only Stranger?

The two had been shuffling town to town, living in their mockery of a station wagon, a rolling address for a time uncertain, telling improbable stories when they showed up, last in line, at the church food pantry. Then, as if dazed by a vision, the couple's progress back to their bald-tire shelter halted. They stood still, looking sad. "We have an empty bedroom," said the volunteer, a jolt that hinted that her words had outmaneuvered her judgment. Whether a plea or a confession, she continued, "Please come; stay with us." So, they did. The night passed, and several more like it. The hard-luck Chevy sat vacated in the driveway while in the house, stories unraveled into blessings. Then one morning when the coffee was brewed and bread browned into toast, they were simply gone, the two of them and the Chevy. On the kitchen table a note read, "Sutch [sic] a blessing that was here will stay with us for a long time or ever."

How many times while walking the seven eternal miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus, discussing with each other the things that had taken place, did those two disciples of Jesus glance at his face or flinch at the sound of his voice, seeing only a stranger with them? It remains the misty curiosity of this late-in-the-day Easter story. How could they not know who he was, walking with them? What blind irony hangs from their one question: "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know . . . ?"

Then—why?—they invited this stranger in. "Stay with us." Perhaps the real surprise is not those disciples' blindness but our bemusement that they did not recognize Jesus when he came to them. For how often have we, too, failed to see Jesus in the stranger?

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
April 26, 2020

Stewardship Information

Views: 101

Weekly Giving: \$3,246.00

Budget Amount: \$4,617.93

www.grace-hastings.org

Adult Forum will continue a study on the book of **Acts** on Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Join us on the conference call, so we can share in discussion. Phone: 605-313-5981 Access Code: 772653#

Today is the “official” last day that we are collecting our Lenten Coin Boxes. The money collected will go towards the ELCA World Hunger Program.

Christ in Our Home and Portals of Prayer are available. Pick up your daily devotional for April, May, and June. These are provided by the Outreach Committee.

The Grace Gram was mailed out this week, if you did not receive one please contact the church office at 269.945.9414.

ACH is available. On our website, you will notice a donate tab. You can use your credit card or checking account. Look for the link on our website and a Grace Gram article that will tell you how to use it.

Spring Flower Sale The youth are selling red Geraniums and Sun Patience plants for \$5.00 a plant. We are thankful that Cotants have promised 400 plants to us. Besides the **red geraniums**, we once again have Sun Patience (New Guinea) plants. This year the colors for the Sun Patience are **Electric Orange**, **Hot Coral**, **Royal Magenta** and **Tropical Rose**. There are order forms that are available, or you can call the church office to place your order.

Assisting Minister – Chris Bush

Lector – Ethan Scheck

Cantor – Pastor Ken Scheck

Musicians – Cindy Olson, Anna Scheck, and Ethan Scheck