

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

205 E. 7th St. Lexington, NE 68850

(308) 324-4341 www.tlclex.org

Senior Pastor Rob Kuefner rkuefner@tlclex.org (308) 746-2270

Visitation Pastor Bill Ohlmann wohlmann@tlclex.org (308) 325-0069

Administrative Assistant Maria Rodriguez mrodriguez@tlclex.org

Supported Missionaries Rev. Chuck Ferry and Family

"Equipping Disciples to Make Disciples for Jesus"



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday April 19, 2020

As We Gather

The seven Sundays of Easter celebrate the greatest of all victories—the defeat of sin, death, and the devil by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The theme of victory fills each of the Sundays of Easter and radiates out the joy of the first Easter morning week by week. One Easter hymnwriter exhorts: “Let hymns of praise His triumph tell” (LSB 464:3). There is so much to be sung and to be told about the victory of Jesus, our Lord—and we are the ones gifted with the opportunity to do the singing and the telling in our generation.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LSB #465

**Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessèd sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003751

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Romans 6:9; Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6, adapted

- P** Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
C **death no longer has dominion over Him.**
- P** Christ has risen from the dead. Alleluia!
C **God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,**
- P** He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
C **He has put all things under His feet. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.
C **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our creator and preserver, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are stained by sin from our very beginnings. We have sinned again and again in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for all of our many sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us all that is past, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us victory over all that oppresses us, and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**
- P** In His boundless mercy, God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him for restoration and renewal. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, and grant you a life on earth in which you tell of His greatness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

WORD

Psalm

Psalm 116:1–14

- P** I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.
C **Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.**
- P** The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.
C **Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!"**

P Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

C **The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, He saved me.**

P Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

C **For You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;**

P I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

C **I believed, even when I spoke, "I am greatly afflicted";**

P *I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars."*

C **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36–41

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation."

⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Peter 1:17–25

¹⁷If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, ²¹who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴for

"All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever."

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:13–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet

mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up 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 happened. ²²Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even 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 him they did not see." ²⁵And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ³³And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Sermon Hymn

Make Songs of Joy

LSB #484

**Make songs of joy to Christ, our head;
Alleluia!
He lives again who once was dead!
Alleluia!**

**Our life was purchased by His loss;
Alleluia!
He died our death upon the cross.
Alleluia!**

**O death, where is your deadly sting?
Alleluia!
Assumed by our triumphant King!
Alleluia!**

**And where your victory, O grave,
Alleluia!
When one like Christ has come to save?
Alleluia!**

**Behold, the tyrants, one and all,
Alleluia!
Before our mighty Savior fall!
Alleluia!**

**For this be praised the Son who rose,
Alleluia!
The Father, and the Holy Ghost!
Alleluia!**

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003751

Sermon

The Heart

Luke 24:13-35

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Silence for reflection

(Each petition will close with; **Lord, in Your mercy...** and the congregation replies: **hear our prayer.**)

- P** Merciful God, we bless You for having placed into our lives faithful Christian people to guide us. On this day we remember those no longer among us on earth who have completed their earthly races and have won the final victory in Christ. Lead us to follow in their way, that we rejoice together eternally at Your Table and in Your mansions. Lord in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

- C** **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.**

Benediction

Closing Song

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

LSB #477

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,**

**Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.**

**Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior
Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia
To the triune Majesty!**

Text (sts. 1, 3): Public domain

Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003751

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.