



St. John's Lutheran Church † Third Sunday in Easter April 18th, 2021 Facebook Live 8:15 a.m.

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Welcome to our worship service this morning. Thank you for shared ministry to the Gospel and your continued love for your church as we continue to be a "Fountain of Life flowing into a River of Compassion for the world." Thank you for your financial support of our General Operations. You may give online at www.stjohns-ec.org, through the GIVEPLUS+ app, or by mail, 1804 Highland Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701. The April Special Offering focus is the Summer Stretch Youth Program and Vacation Bible School. We look forward to these events this summer and to in person worship beginning May 2nd.

Serving at worship today: Rev. Julie Brenden and Rev. Christine Emerson, Norah Kelly – Special Music, Mavis Wolf – Lector, Scott Olsen-Camera, Roxanne Litchfield-Holey-Piano. Thank you!

Prelude – Norah Kelly *Here I Am to Worship* - arr. Tom Gerou

Announcements

Easter Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song ELW# 858 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

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.**

Prayer of the Day

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.**

Word: 1 John 3:1-7 *God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

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. Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation ACS #1088

Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,
hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:36b-49 *In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **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.” ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



Message: *Jesus' Unreserved Teaching* Pastor Julie Brenden

Hymn of the Day ELW - #377 *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!* vs. 1, 2

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light! Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain

Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes; breaking our bread, giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain*

Apostles Creed

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:

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 changed hearts and mercy 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 (*local concerns for creation may be named*). 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 justice. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and human with actions that foster whole life for all 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. Protect educators and students, shield clinic and hospital employees from illness as they tend to community needs. 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 in this community of faith of St. John's we support each other and become equipped to reach out to a world in need. Give your love especially to these this week... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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 (*especially*). 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Savior taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed 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

Blessing

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 Song ELW - #522 *As We Gather at Your Table* vs. 1, 2

- 1 As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.
- 2 Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Sending

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God.

(A sign of peace is shared) (Comment your peace to one another.)

Postlude – Norah Kelly *I've Got Peace Like a River* - trad. Spiritual

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This Week at St. John's:

Today, Sunday, April 18th

8:15am Facebook Live Worship Service

9:15 a.m. Facebook Live Communion Service

(You are welcome to watch for a separate Facebook Livestream at 9:15 a.m. and be led through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Please have the elements of bread and wine ready for those in your household. This brief worship will not be shared or saved on our Facebook page.)

9:30am Sunday School (Self Led)

9:45 a.m. Parking Lot Communion

(You are welcome to come to the north parking lot of St. John's to be led through the sacrament of Holy Communion over the radio on 89.7 FM. You may begin parking in the lot at 9:30 a.m., obtain the pre-packaged bread and wine, and listen for several minutes of music as prelude to the Communion liturgy. Ushers will assist you to park and receive your offering. The pastors will come around to greet you after the Communion service is complete.)

10:30am TV Worship – “Together in God”

Sunday, April 25th

8:15am Worship Facebook Live

9:30am Sunday School (Zoom)

9:30am Community and World Ministry