

The Third Sunday of Easter
April 18, 2021
Living Faith Lutheran Church, Sechelt, BC

Preservice Music/Welcome/Announcements

GATHERING

Easter Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!** (*Repeat 3 times*)

Gathering Hymn #361 “The Day of Resurrection” v. 3 – piano only

- 1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the passover of gladness, the passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.
- 2 Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and list'ning to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the glad refrain.
- 3 *Now let the heav'ns be joyful, let earth its song begin,
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen, their notes of gladness blend;
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end!*
- 4 All praise to God the Father, all praise to Christ the Son,
all praise to God the Spirit, eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number fall down before the throne,
and honor, pow'r, and glory ascribe to God alone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all. **And also with you.**

Song of Praise (*spoken*) “This is the Feast”

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!

1. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honour and blessing and glory are his. *Refrain.***

**2. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain.***

Prayer of the Day

**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, your Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

First Reading Acts 3:12-19

[While the lame man, having been healed, clung to Peter, all the people. . .ran toward them, astonished.]. When Peter saw this, he 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 God's 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, ¹⁵ and 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. ¹⁷And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what God had foretold through all the prophets, that the Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

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

Second Reading I 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 God. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when God is revealed, we will be like God, for we will see God just as God is. ³And all who have this hope purify themselves, just as God is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that God was revealed to take away sins, and in God there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in God sins; no one who sins has either seen God or known God. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as God is righteous.

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

Gospel Acclamation *Please rise in body or spirit*

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! Alleluia!

³⁶While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them 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 good news of our Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ***

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "The Risen Christ Who Walks on Wounded Feet"

The Risen Christ



1 The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound-ed feet
2 The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound-ed side,
3 The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound-ed hand
4 May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and stand



from gar - den tomb through dark - ened cit - y street,
breathes out his Spir - it on them to a - bide
the bread for those who fail to un - der - stand,
with those op - pressed in this and ev - 'ry land,



un - locks the door of grief, de - spair, and fear,
whose faith still wa - vers, who dare not be - lieve;
re - veals him - self, de - spite their lin - g'ring tears,
till all are blessed and can a bless - ing be,



and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
new grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
en - flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
re - stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.

Text: Nigel Weaver, b. 1952
Music: WOODLANDS, Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949
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Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

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, especially our local waterways and watersheds which serve as our sources of safe and reliable drinking water. 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 federal, provincial, and local governments and 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 those in our household of faith and in our minds whom we name before you now in silence or aloud. . .*). 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 (*especially those nearest and dearest to us whose lives and memories we cherish in gratitude. . .*). 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.**

Sharing of the Peace and Offertory

A musical reflection is played while the table is set

MEAL

Offertory Prayer

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

God is with you. **And God is also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer for Eastertide over the Gifts of the Earth

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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 life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
Through him all glory and honour is yours, Eternal One, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer (*to be sung to the usual melody*)

**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.

Fraction (*Breaking of the bread*)

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The feast of gladness is shared while a musical reflection is played

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Wellspring of joy, **through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.**

**Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses that your love
may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

Benediction

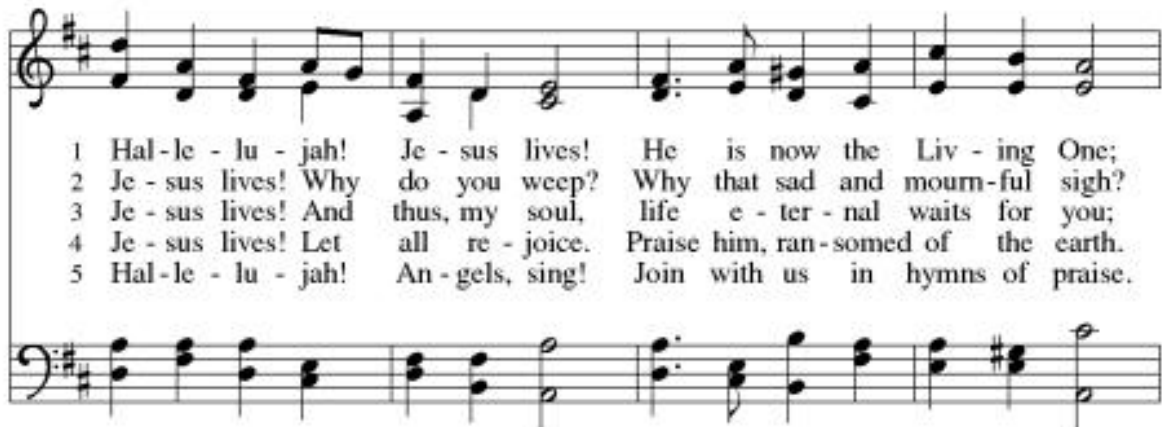
May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.
The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn #380 "Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!" v. 3 – piano only
(*see next page for text and tune*)

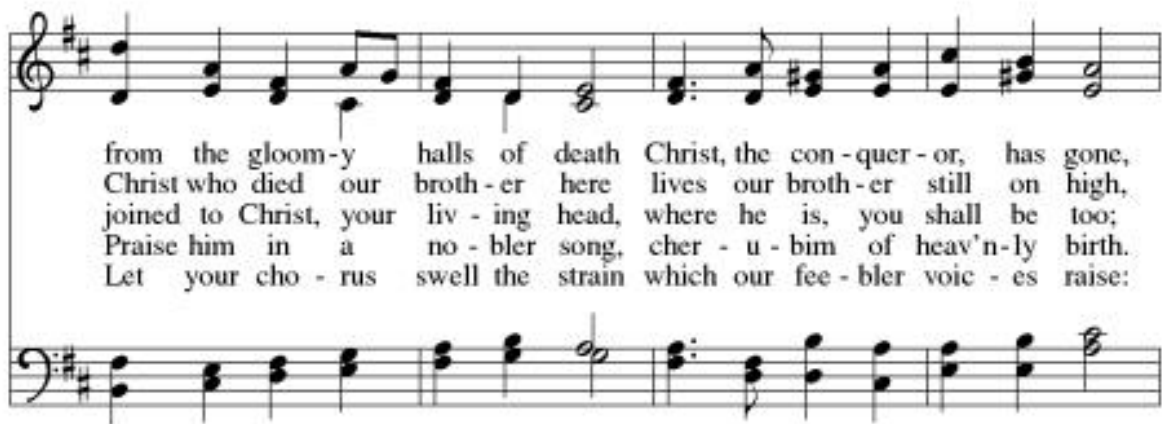
Dismissal Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

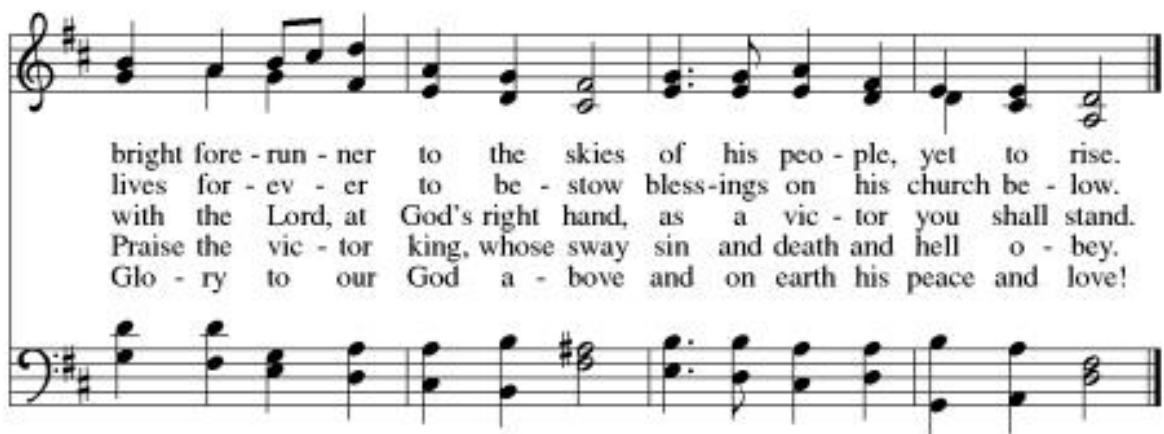
Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn-ful sigh?
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran-somed of the earth.
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con-quer-or, has gone,
Christ who died our broth-er here lives our broth-er still on high,
joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless-ings on his church be - low.
with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.
Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.
Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!