

# The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

10:30am – St. Luke United Lutheran Church • Trail Creek, IN

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

pg. 97

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

#### \*GATHERING HYMN

*Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!*

ELW #377



1	Al - le - lu - ia!	Je - sus	is	ris - en!
2	Walk - ing the way,	Christ in	the	cen - ter
3	Je - sus the vine,	we are	the	branch - es;
4	Weep - ing, be gone;	sor - row,	be	si - lent:
5	Cit - y of God,	Eas - ter	for - ev - er,	



Trum - pets re - sound - ing	in	glo - ri - ous	light!
tell - ing the sto - ry	to	o - pen	our eyes;
life in the Spir - it	the	fruit of	the tree;
death put a - sun - der,	and	Eas - ter	is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem,	Je - sus	the	Lamb,

Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,

Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.

Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

**\*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.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray,

Almighty and merciful God, you made the disciples glad by the sight of the risen Lord. Remind us that he is always with us, and that we now share in his resurrection. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### FIRST READING

*Acts 3:12-19*

<sup>12</sup>Seeing this, Peter addressed the people: "You Israelites, why are you amazed at this? Why are you staring at us as if we made him walk by our own power or piety? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God of our ancestors—has glorified his servant Jesus. This is the one you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence, even though he had already decided

to release him. <sup>14</sup>You rejected the holy and righteous one, and asked that a murderer be released to you instead. <sup>15</sup>You killed the author of life, the very one whom God raised from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup>His name itself has made this man strong. That is, because of faith in Jesus' name, God has strengthened this man whom you see and

know. The faith that comes through Jesus gave him complete health right before your eyes.

<sup>17</sup>“Brothers and sisters, I know you acted in ignorance. So did your rulers. <sup>18</sup>But this is how God fulfilled what he foretold through all the prophets: that his Christ would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Change

## PSALM

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I cry out, my righteous God!

Set me free from my troubles!

Have mercy on me!

Listen to my prayer!

**<sup>2</sup>How long, you people,  
will my reputation be insulted?  
How long will you continue  
to love what is worthless  
and go after lies?**

<sup>3</sup>Know this: the LORD takes personal care of the faithful.

The LORD will hear me when I cry out to him.

## SECOND READING

<sup>1</sup>See what kind of love the Father has given to us in that we should be called God’s children, and that is what we are! Because the world didn’t recognize him, it doesn’t recognize us.

<sup>2</sup>Dear friends, now we are God’s children, and it hasn’t yet appeared what we will be. We know that when he appears we will be like him because we’ll see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves even as he is pure. <sup>4</sup>Every person who practices sin commits an act of rebellion, and sin is rebellion. <sup>5</sup>You know that he appeared to take away sins, and there is no sin in him. <sup>6</sup>Every person who remains in relationship to him does not sin. Any person who sins has not seen him or known him.

<sup>7</sup>Little children, make sure no one deceives you. The person who practices righteousness is righteous, in the same way that Jesus is righteous. <sup>8</sup>The person who practices sin belongs to the devil, because the devil has been sinning since the beginning. God’s Son appeared for this purpose: to destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup>Those born from God don’t practice sin because God’s DNA remains in them. They can’t sin because they are born from God. <sup>10</sup>This is how God’s children and

your hearts and lives! Turn back to God so that your sins may be wiped away.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 4*

**<sup>4</sup>So be afraid, and don’t sin!  
Think hard about it in your bed  
and weep over it!**

<sup>5</sup>Bring righteous offerings,  
and trust the LORD!

**<sup>6</sup>Many people say,  
“We can’t find goodness anywhere.  
The light of your face has left us, LORD!”**

<sup>7</sup>But you have filled my heart with more joy than when their wheat and wine are everywhere!

**<sup>8</sup>I will lie down and fall asleep in peace  
because you alone, LORD, let me live in  
safety.**

*1 John 3:1-17*

the devil’s children are apparent: everyone who doesn’t practice righteousness is not from God, including the person who doesn’t love a brother or sister. <sup>11</sup>This is the message that you heard from the beginning: love each other. <sup>12</sup>Don’t behave like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he kill him? He killed him because his own works were evil, but the works of his brother were righteous.

<sup>13</sup>Don’t be surprised, brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. <sup>14</sup>We know that we have transferred from death to life, because we love the brothers and sisters. The person who does not love remains in death. <sup>15</sup>Everyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that murderers don’t have eternal life residing in them. <sup>16</sup>This is how we know love: Jesus laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup>But if someone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but refuses to help—how can the love of God dwell in a person like that?

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>37</sup>They were terrified and afraid. They thought they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you startled? Why are doubts arising in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet. It's really me! Touch me and see, for a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones like you see I have." <sup>40</sup>As he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup>Because they were wondering and questioning in the midst of their happiness, he said to them, "Do you have anything to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of baked fish. <sup>43</sup>Taking it, he ate it in front of them.

<sup>44</sup>Jesus 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 from Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He said to them, "This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.

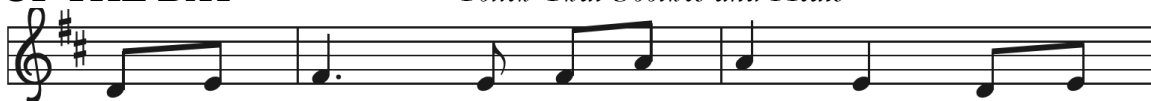
The Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*Touch That Soothes and Heals*

ACS #939



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that  
2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it  
3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's  
4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a

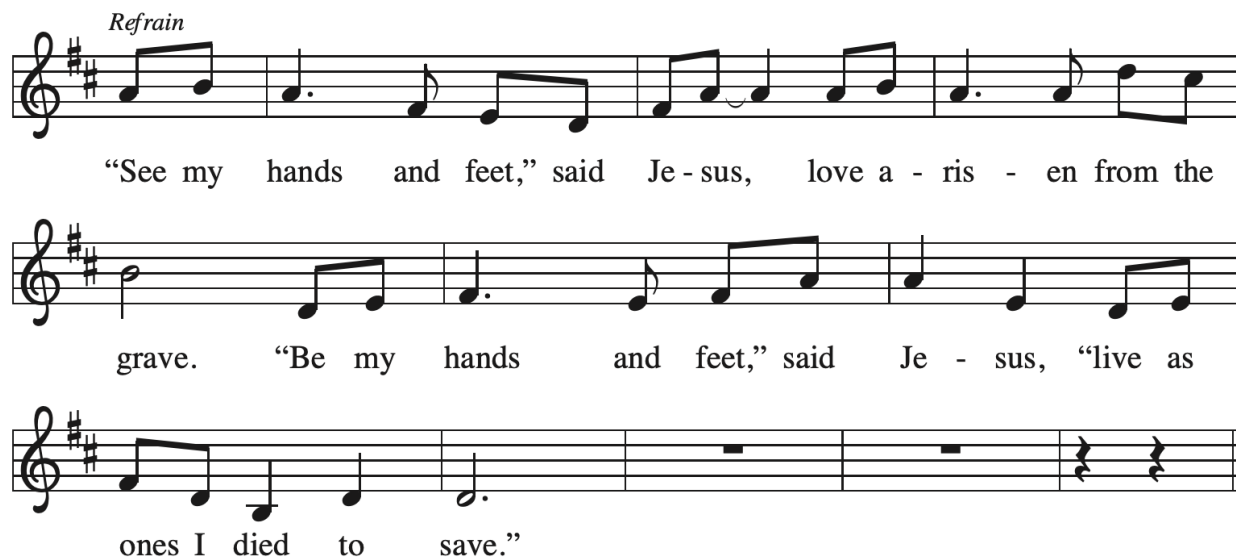


break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the  
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and  
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of  
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:  
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.  
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.  
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

*Refrain*



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the  
grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as  
ones I died to save.”

### \*APOSTLES' CREED

pg. 105

Let us confess our faith, using the words of the 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 into hell.**

**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

We join our hearts and voices to offer our prayers to God.

*A brief silence.*

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. Set our minds on heavenly things, **and fill us with your joy.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms and bring water to parched places, so that this planet can sustain life in all its variety. Set our minds on heavenly things, **and fill us with your joy.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. Set our minds on heavenly things, **and fill us with your joy.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. Set our minds on heavenly things, **and fill us with your joy.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. Today we lift up these members and friends: William, Jacqueline, Phyllis, Eric, Lindsay, Aerilyn, Emerie. Set our minds on heavenly things, **and fill us with your joy.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. Set our minds on heavenly things, **and fill us with your joy.**

Help us listen closely to your Word, even as you listen closely to our prayers. **Amen.**

✠ MEAL ✠

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING & SETTING OF THE TABLE**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

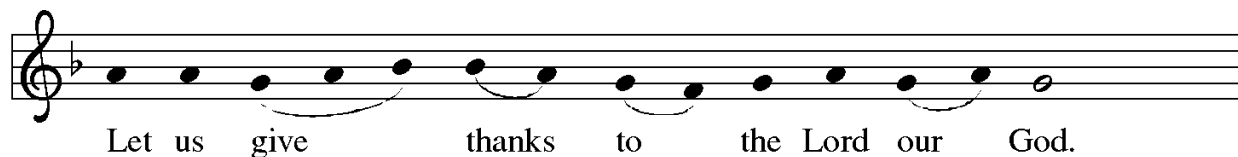
pg. 107

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

pg. 144



**\*PREFACE**

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**

pg. 144



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

pg. 108

On the night 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.

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.  
 As often as you drink of it,  
 do this for the remembrance of me.

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

pg. 145

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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,**

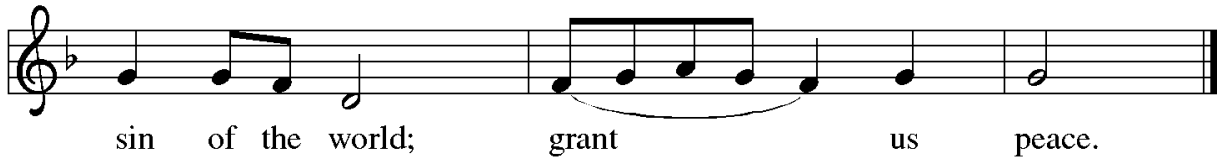
**as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*LAMB OF GOD**

pg. 146

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the





**\*INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

ELW #470



1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly  
 2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
 3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,  
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er  
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

**CLEANING THE TABLE**

**\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son.  
 By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the  
 hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

Almighty God—Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit—  
bless you now and forever.  
**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

*The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done*

ELW #366



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's  
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions  
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious  
4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high  
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Sharing Christ's love by serving all.**

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