

April 27, 2025 / 8:30 & 11 am Second Sunday of Easter

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

GATHERING

Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to worship at Trinity! As we prepare our hearts, please take a moment to silence your electronic devices. Portions for the assembly are in **bold**. *Stand as you are able.

Prelude

Amanda Gentzel, Organist

Pastor Larry Kemp

ELW p. 116

P: Christ is risen!

*Easter Announcement

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

*Confession and Forgiveness

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.
- P: Gracious God,
- C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

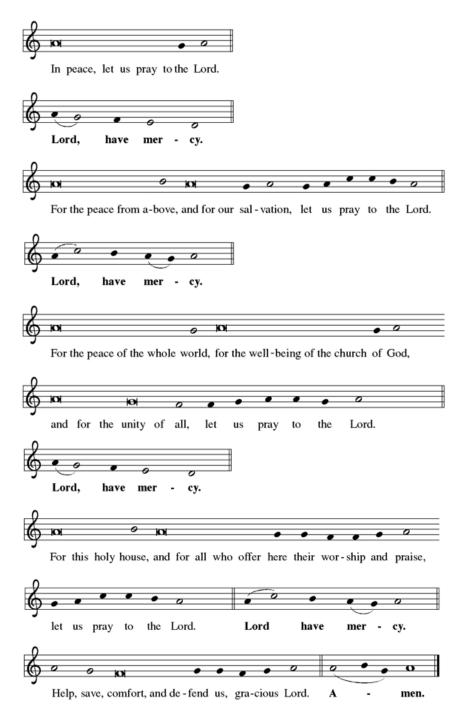
C: Amen.



- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

*Kyrie (Sung Responsively)

ELW p. 147



*Canticle of Praise (Unison) "This is the Feast"

ELW p. 149



*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

AM: Let us pray.

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

TBD (8:30) / Linda Cragg (11)

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

- L: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 118:14-29 (prayed responsively)

TBD (8:30) / Linda Cragg (11)

You are my God, and I will exalt you. (Ps. 118:28)

- ¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
- The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"
- ¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.
- ¹⁸ The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.
- ¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

- ²⁰ "This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."
- ²¹ I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eves.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- ²⁵ Hosanna! O Lord, save us!
 - We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.
- ²⁸ You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.
- ²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

TBD (8:30) / Linda Cragg (11)

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

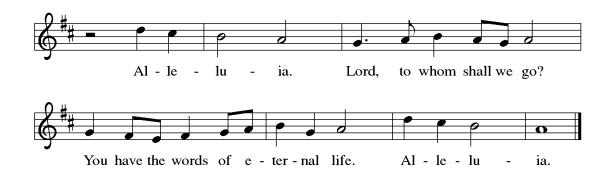
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation (Unison)



P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*<u>Gospel: John 20:19-31</u>

Pastor Larry Kemp

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

*Hymn

#361

The Day of Resurrection!



Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

*<u>The Nicene Creed</u>

- AM: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:
- C: 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 People of God

Each petition concludes with:

- AM: Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

After the final petition, the prayers conclude with:

- AM: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us, in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C: Amen.

*<u>The Peace</u>

P: The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(As God has brought us peace through Jesus Christ, we now turn to one another and share the same gift of peace, saying to one another: "Peace be with you.")

Please be seated.

We Give our Gifts, Tithes and Offering

Voluntary at the Offering

Amanda Gentzel

*The Offertory



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*Offering Prayer

AM: Let us pray.

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

MEAL

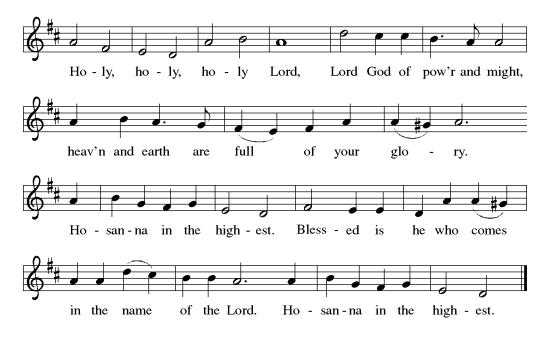
*The Great Thanksgiving

ELW p. 144

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*The Proper Preface

P: 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:



*<u>Prayer of Thanksgiving</u>

LBW p. 69

- P: You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises. 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

- P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.
- C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
- C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

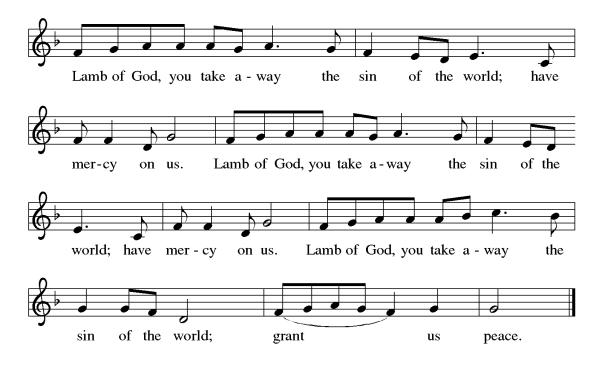
C: Amen

*<u>The Lord's Prayer</u>

- ELW p. 145
- P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- 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.

*Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. *Lamb of God (Unison)



Please be seated.

The Holy Supper

The Distribution of Holy Communion

Please come forward when invited by the Pastor. Empty cups (for wine) will be in the trays located by the front pew. The Communion Assistant will fill your cup with wine. Gluten-free wafers and cups filled with juice are in the center of the tray. The Pastor will offer the bread. Children who haven't received their first Communion, may come forward with hands folded to receive a blessing by the Pastor. Return to your pew by the side aisle. Place your empty cups in the container at the end of the front pew.

Communion Song "Hallelujah! Jesus Lives" #380

*<u>The Post Communion Blessing</u>

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
- C: Amen.

*<u>Prayer After Communion</u>

AM: Let us pray.

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

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SENDING

*<u>Blessing</u>

- P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C: Amen.

*HYMN

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*<u>Dismissal</u>

- AM: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- AM: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.
- C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Amanda Gentzel

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