

# Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



## Prelude Music

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Gathering Song: Shout for Joy

Pour out your fervent praise  
There's a song to raise  
Like a banner high  
Lift up your grateful heart  
To the Morning Star  
He's alive and here with us

Shout for joy  
For the Son of God is the Saving One  
He's the Saving One  
Shout for joy  
See what love has done  
He has come for us  
He's the Saving One

We stood on sinking sand  
He reached out His hand  
Pulled us to His side  
We turned our hearts away  
He was strong to save  
Now our Savior reigns in us

Shout for joy  
For the Son of God is the Saving One  
He's the Saving One  
Shout for joy  
See what love has done  
He has come for us  
He's the Saving One

Oh oh oh oh  
Oh oh oh oh

There is no other God like You  
We sing the praises that You're due  
Jesus You have saved us  
Oh whoa  
There is no other God who reigns  
You are the Name above all names  
Jesus You have saved us  
Whoa whoa

and shout for joy  
For the Son of God is the Saving One  
He's the Saving One  
Shout for joy  
See what love has done  
He has come for us  
He's the Saving One

## Greeting

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

A/P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A/P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A/P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord have mercy.**

A/P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

A/P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

**C: 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.**

## Children's Message

## **First Reading: 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.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## **Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

## **Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48**

*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.*

P: A reading from... **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

36bJesus 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon – Pastor Paul**

**Song of the Day: We Walk by Faith** (*Please see back page for music*)

## 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 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 the Church / Sign of the Peace

### Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer

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.

### Communion

**Communion Song: Spirit of Gentleness** (Please see back page for music)

### Final Blessing

P: 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.

C: Amen.

### Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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**Sending Song: All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises** (see next page)

You lived You died  
You said in three days  
You would rise  
You did You're alive  
You rule You reign  
You said You're coming back again  
I know that You will  
And all the earth will sing Your praises

All the earth will sing Your praises

You took  
You take our sins away O God  
You give  
You gave Your life away for us  
You came down  
You saved us through the cross  
Our hearts are changed  
Because of Your great love

You lived You died  
You said in three days  
You would rise  
You did You're alive  
You rule You reign  
You said You're coming back again  
I know that You will  
And all the earth will sing Your praises

You lived You died  
You said in three days  
You would rise  
You did You're alive  
You rule You reign  
You said You're coming back again  
I know that You will  
And all the earth will sing Your praises

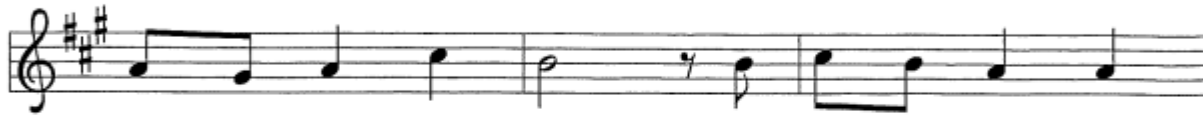
All the earth will sing Your praises (4X)

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## We Walk by Faith



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

SHANTI

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# Spirit of Gentleness

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*Refrain*



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;  
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;  
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;  
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:  
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,  
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,  
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



*Refrain*

“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”  
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.  
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.  
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.



**Bethlehem**  
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*April 18, 2021*

**Sharon Weller** announced her resignation from her positions as Music Coordinator/Choir Director and Administrative Assistant. Her last day on staff at Bethlehem was Sunday, April 4th.

We give thanks for all the wonderful work, music and ministry Sharon has shared with us these last few years. She has helped our congregation through our many challenges during the COVID pandemic as well as the many changes to help our church move forward technologically to allow for our parishioners to have a choice to view our services at home. We wish Sharon all the best, and may God bless her and keep her always. Sharon, you will be missed!

**Altar Flowers have returned!** Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. You may use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the Administration Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance. You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

**Today's altar flowers are donated by:** *Jacky Putman, In memory of Sandra Osgood.*

**"Zoom Bible Study"** gathering via Zoom is on a break right now. Our next study will start on April 21<sup>st</sup> and will be on Paul's letter to the Philippians from Augsburg Fortress. Besides the thought-provoking discussions, we also have great conversation and fellowship. Please contact Pr. Paul if you are interested in joining.

**The BLC book club** continues to meet the 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm via ZOOM. On Apr 27 we will discuss the book "My Name is Lucy Barton" by Elizabeth Strout. If you would like to participate and are not already on the email list, just send your email address to [cmonroe@chartermi.net](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net).



**It's time to take the plunge and volunteer!** Join us for a very special day of underwater-themed faith-filled fun! Our one day outdoor VBS program called Great Bible Reef is planned to take place on Sunday, June 27th! The Christian Education Committee and Annie are in search of volunteers who can assist with cool crafts, fun songs, zany games and school of friends. Volunteer participation is crucial if we are going to have VBS this summer. Please reach out to Annie Slabaugh at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org) or 616.551.6418 to get more info and sign up.

**The APRIL issue of the STAR is ready!** This is an early publication so we can include Holy Week and Easter information. Feel free to check online at [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org) < About Us > "The Online Bethlehem Star" or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>

The outdoor **"Shooting STAR Dispenser" at BLC is now full** with several paper publications, including the April STAR and the current week's worship folder/bulletin. If you would like a copy of a DVD, please contact the church and one will be produced for you.

**Drive My Way**, the driver's ed school using Bethlehem's facility is in need of experienced driver's ed teachers. If you are experienced or know someone who is experienced, please contact Mark or Ashley Ingraham, the Father/Daughter Team; Drive My Way Driver Education; (231)492-6612. Time and pay are negotiable.

**Christ in Our Home Devotionals for available for April/May/June.** They can be picked up at the name tag table on Sunday mornings, from the STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion. The newest *Living Lutheran* magazine is also available in the same locations.

**A big thank you** to those who have turned in Oleson's receipts. For 2020, we received a total of \$545.66. Please continue saving your Oleson's receipts for Bethlehem. Please drop them off in the bin under the mailbox counter. Thanks.

**Calling all Knitters!!** There is an overabundance of yarn skeins in the bin under the mailboxes in the narthex. PLEASE feel free to grab some to make hats, mittens, prayer shawls, etc.! The yarn is sorted according to kind, so you can be sure to find something appropriate for whatever project you have in mind. Questions? Call Betty R. (947-1013)

**Keep "Hope Spreading":** Don't forget our blog "Hope Spreads Further" is still going strong! We've had many very inspiring entries and hope to read more. We invite you to help us build this blog or just read current entries at <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/hope-spreads-further>. Reach out to *Pastor Paul* at [paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org) if you'd like to contribute to the blog!