# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2020 10:00 AM Service Holy Communion





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Online Services: Sunday @ 8 and 10 AM

### **GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

PRELUDE Fairest Lord Jesus D. Wood

Symbols in the Bulletin: P Priest, D Deacon, C Congregation, L Leader

THE GATHERING HYMN

Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing

H. 334 1,2

Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing; glory be to God on high! Christ, your cross and passion sharing, by this Eucharist declaring yours the final victory.

Scattered flock, one shepherd sharing, lost and lonely, one voice hearing, ears attentive to your word; by your Blood new life receiving, in your Body, firm believing, we are yours, and you the Lord.

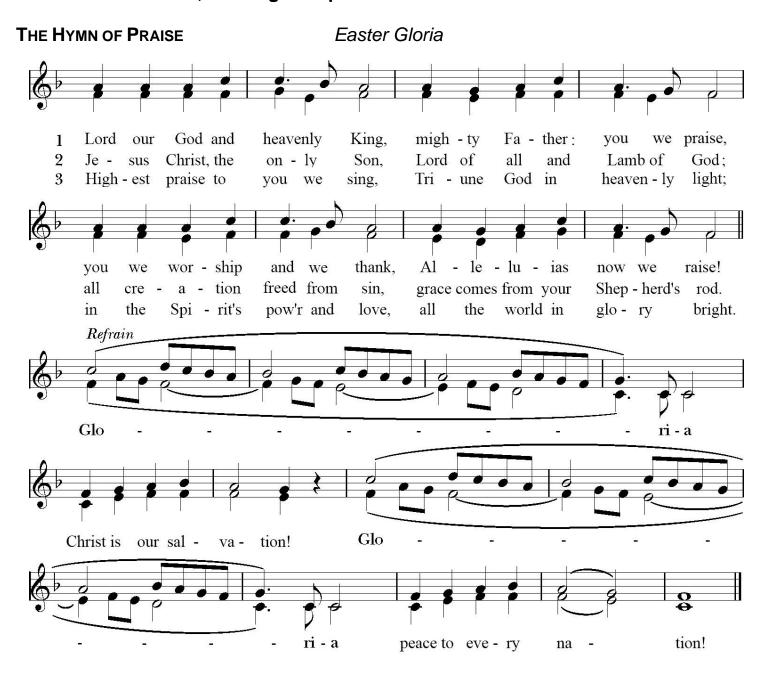
**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

#### THE GATHERING PRAYER

- P We gather in the name of our Easter God:
- Our Risen Lord transforms darkness into light, hatred into tolerance, despair into hope.
- P We rejoice in the power of our Easter God:
- Our Father's love redeems every Good Friday nightmare into the promise of eternal life.
- P We embrace the purposes of our Easter God:
- The Holy Spirit challenges us to leave tomb-like safety and invites us to live our faith boldly.
- P We are Easter people:
- We are a sign that indeed miracles happen, and that with God, all things are possible.



## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Let us pray...

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those we doubt may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

### WORD OF GOD

THE READINGS: Exodus 3:14-15, 4:1-8, 29-31 • Psalm 16 • Acts 2:14a, 22-32 • John 20:19-31

## The First Reading:

■ The First Reading is taken from Exodus, chapters 3 and 4.

God said to Moses, "I Am Who I Am. So say to the Israelites, 'I Am has sent me to you." God continued, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me.

Then Moses replied, "But what if they don't believe me or pay attention to me? They might say to me, 'The Lord didn't appear to you!'"

The Lord said to him, "What's that in your hand?"

Moses replied, "A shepherd's rod."

The Lord said, "Throw it down on the ground." So Moses threw it on the ground, and it turned into a snake. Moses jumped back from it. Then the Lord said to Moses, "Reach out and grab the snake by the tail." So Moses reached out and grabbed it, and it turned back into a rod in his hand. "Do this so that they will believe that the Lord, the God of their ancestors, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God has in fact appeared to you."

Again, the Lord said to Moses, "Put your hand inside your coat." So Moses put his hand inside his coat. When he took his hand out, his hand had a skin disease flaky like snow. Then God said, "Put your hand back inside your coat." So Moses put his hand back inside his coat. When he took it back out again, the skin of his hand had returned to normal. "If they won't believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second sign.

Then Moses and Aaron called together all the Israelite elders. Aaron told them everything that the Lord had told to Moses, and he performed the signs in front of the people. The people believed. When they heard that the Lord had paid attention to the Israelites and had seen their oppression, they bowed down and worshipped.

- **L** The Word of the Lord.
- Chanks be to God.

Tune: On Jordan's Bank

Protect me, God, my refuge sure; The good I have all comes from you. The godly people are my joy, All those with noble hearts and true.

I bless the Lord who counsels me; My heart will help me understand.
I set the Lord before my face To be my guard at my right hand.

My heart and spirit both rejoice, My body, too, in hope shall lie. You will not let your holy one Lie in the grave with those who die.

You show me, Lord, the path of life; Your presence fills my heart with joy. The pleasures found at your right hand Are those that time cannot destroy

## **Second Reading:**

■ The Second Reading is taken from Acts, chapter 2...

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, "Fellow Israelites, listen to these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man whose credentials God proved to you through miracles, wonders, and signs, which God performed through him among you. You yourselves know this. In accordance with God's established plan and foreknowledge, he was betrayed. You, with the help of wicked men, had Jesus killed by nailing him to a cross. God raised him up! God freed him from death's dreadful grip, since it was impossible for death to hang on to him. David says about him,

I foresaw that the Lord was always with me;
because he is at my right hand I won't be shaken.
Therefore, my heart was glad and my tongue rejoiced.
Moreover, my body will live in hope,
because you won't abandon me to the grave,
nor permit your holy one to experience decay.
You have shown me the paths of life; your presence will fill me with happiness.

"Brothers and sisters, I can speak confidently about the patriarch David. He died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this very day. Because he was a prophet, he knew that God promised him with a solemn pledge to seat one of his descendants on his throne. Having seen this beforehand, David spoke about the resurrection of Christ, that he wasn't abandoned to the grave, nor did his body experience decay. This Jesus God raised up. We are all witnesses to that fact.

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

#### THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Celtic Alleluia



## The Gospel

**D** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

## Glory to you, Lord Christ.

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe."

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!"

Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

- D The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**SERMON** 

Becky Robbins-Penniman

The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet from garden tomb through darkened city street, unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear, and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.

The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side, breathes out his Spirit on them to abide whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe; new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.

The risen Christ, who breaks with wounded hand, the bread for those who fail to understand, reveals himself, despite their lingering tears, enflames their hearts, then quickly disappears.

May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand with the oppressed in this and every land, till all are blessed and can a blessing be, restored in Christ to true humanity.

#### THE 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

- Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered all people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray.
- L Risen Lord, we pray for your Church, that it may continue your work of reconciling all people to God; for our clergy and our bishops; for the many lay people who serve the church and serve others through the church.
- We pray for all gathered here in worship and prayer, here and around the world.
- Risen Lord, we pray that the joy of Easter may ever grow within us and the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers that oppress and destroy may cease.
- We pray that a passion for justice, peace, and the common good will fill each of our hearts, and for the Spirit to guide us in lives of active faith.
- L Risen Lord, we pray for those who are sick, those who suffer, and those who struggle, [especially for... add names from notebook]. Please name those on your heart, silently or aloud. [Leave time...] Comfort, restore and heal them.
- We pray that the troubles facing us will teach us that we endure nothing alone, but that you are always present, creating, redeeming and sustaining us every step of our journey through life.
- Risen Lord, we give thanks for the multitude of gifts you shower upon us, for the beauty of this home you have created for us, and especially for the flowers given today to your glory, and for the blessings of this life. Grant us a sense of joy and wonder in all your works.
- We give thanks for our lives and the lives of our families, friendships, and neighbors near and far, and praise you for your mercy and care for us.
- L Risen Lord, we pray for those who have died, [especially for... add names from notebook.] Please name those on your heart, silently or aloud. [Leave time...] May the hope born of Easter give both them and us peace, acceptance and renewal.
- Heavenly Father, grant that all who now celebrate these joyful holy days here on earth may praise you forever, with all the angels and saints in heaven. We ask this through your risen Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE GREETING OF PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- And also with you. (All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

P Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. Bring your tithes, gifts and offerings with a heart full of gladness.

**OFFERTORY** Psalm 139 A. Pote

#### **PRESENTATION**

D We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God's world.

Presentation Hymn

Were the Whole Realm of Nature Mine

474, vs. 4

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER** [Enriching Our Worship 1]

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. We praise you 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 lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

- P Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.
- P Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.
- P On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."
- P As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."
- P Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit + and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

P Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
- 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

- P Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the Bread.
- **9** We come with joy to meet our Lord.
- P The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

#### THE CHANT

Laudate Dominum

Sing, praise and bless the Lord. Sing, praise and bless the Lord.

Peoples! Nations! Alleluia!

#### THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P Let us pray...
- God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING

- P The God who is creating a new heaven and a new earth, who walks where least expected, who disturbs the comfortable and comforts the distressed, and whom death could not control, now sends you out to announce with your lives that the Lord is risen indeed. Go, you are blessed in the name of our Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

He is risen, he is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice: he has burst his three days' prison; let the whole wide earth rejoice: death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory.

He is risen, he is risen! He hath opened heaven's gate: we are free from sin's dark prison, risen to a holier state; and a brighter Easter beam on our longing eyes shall stream.

## THE DISMISSAL

- P Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve our Risen Lord!

Postlude Trumpet Voluntary J. Stanley

### **SERVING US TODAY**

Celebrant Becky Robbins-Penniman

Deacon Cindy Roehl
Priest Associate Ann Chaplin

Organist Robert Moncrief Acolyte/Crucifer Carey Cherivtch

Lectors Carey Cherivtch

Prayers of the People Carey Cherivtch