

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 8:30 & 11 am

Messiah Lutheran Church

MessiahFairview.org

(440) 331-2405

Welcome to worship! We are delighted you are here and have chosen to worship today. We believe the Holy Spirit of God gathers us together as one. May you be strengthened through his word and the promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The mission statement of Messiah Church is: ***Drawing in to Christ, Building up in Christ, Sending out for Christ.*** Our aim is to love each other as Christ has loved us all. We continue to encourage sensible social distancing. If you wish to wear a mask, please do so. If you are feeling ill, please take precautions and consider worshipping via the livestream ministry of Messiah. Online services can be found at ***MessiahFairview.org; click "watch services" online.***

Holy Communion is shared at every worship service. The sacrament of holy communion is central to our worship life. If you are a first-time worshipper here, know that you are invited to receive and partake in the sharing of holy communion.

Introduction to The Day

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 8:30 & 11 am

*The congregation is invited to participate at the places marked with **bold** type*

Prelude

Prelude in G Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Gathering

Stand and turn to face the cross of Christ at the Entrance to the Sanctuary

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God, the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C Amen.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

ELW 377

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.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray,
 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.

C Amen.

Sit

Word

First Reading

Acts 3: 12-19

²[Peter] 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 his 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, ¹⁵and 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.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 4

Cantor sings refrain; All sing refrain



*Cantor sings verses in regular print;
All sing verses in bold print and refrain*



¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?”**

³Know that the LORD does wonders | for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me | when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and | do not sin; speak to your heart in silence
up- | on your bed.**

R

⁵Offer the appointed | sacrifices, and put your trust | in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us | any good?” Let the light of
your face shine upon | us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness | in my heart, more than when grain and | wine
abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie | down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me | rest secure.**

R

Second Reading

1 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 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.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

All sing

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.

Gospel

Luke 24: 36b-48

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C Glory to you, O Lord.

^{6b}Jesus 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.

Sit

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Cinda Warner Gorman

Silence for Reflection; Stand

Hymn of the Day

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

ELW 366

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.

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayers:

A Lord, in your mercy. . .

C Hear our prayer

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Greet those around you with these or similar words

You may be seated

The Lord's Supper

Music at the Offering

Joy Ringers *Jesus Medley* setting by Patricia Sanders Cota (8:30)

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ David Cherwien (11:00)

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward

Offertory:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW 674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

If the Lord so moves you, you can make an offering by text to 855-913-1744 or by visiting our online giving portal at tinyurl.com/giveMLC

A Risen One,
C you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

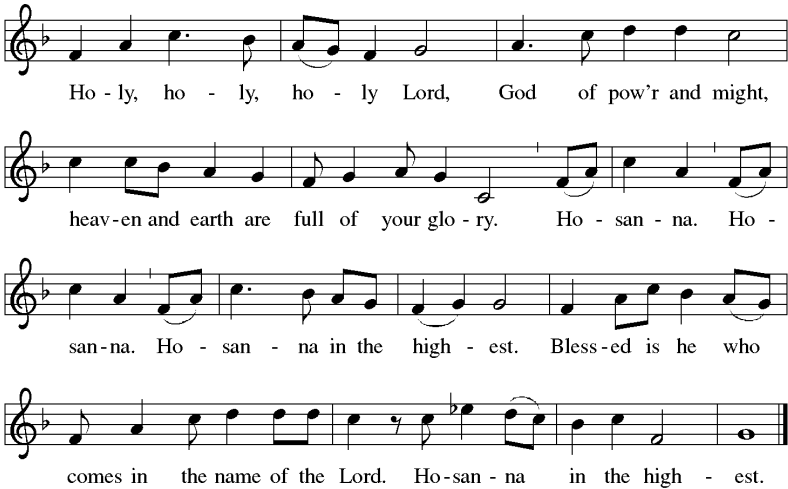
P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

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.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. . .we praise your name
and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
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.

P Holy , mighty, and merciful Lord ... (the prayer continues) ...
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory,
now and forever.

C Amen.

**C 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.**

Sit

Communion

Concerning the sacrament — Holy Communion is Christ's gift to his Church, his true body and blood given with bread and wine for us to eat and drink. Here Christ confirms in us the benefits of his death and resurrection. He forgives our sins, refreshes our lives, and promises our salvation. We welcome to the Lord's table all baptized and communing Christians who share this faith.

In receiving, please follow the lead of the people around you. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. Quietly ask the Pastor for the Gluten-free host.

If coming forward not to commune but to receive a blessing, approach the Pastor with your arms crossed. If you are physically unable to come forward, simply let an usher or deacon know you would like to receive communion at your seat.

Alleluia from Exsultate Jubilate Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (8:30)

Distribution Hymns

Be Not Afraid	ELW 388
Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether	ELW 470

Stand after all have communed

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you
in his grace.

C Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P Shepherd God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

C **Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

This Joyful Eastertide

ELW 391

P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

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

Postlude *The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done* George Theophilus Miles

Altar Flowers

Are given in Loving memory of Pastor Erling Helland by his family.

Serving Today

Preaching & Presiding Minister – Rev. Dr. Cinda Warner Gorman

Assisting Ministers – Michael Thiel (11:00)

Acolyte – Noah Bridger (11:00)

Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Soloist – Claire Connelly

Accompanist – Lisa Daley

Joy Ringers – Ruth King

Deacons – Terrie Leske (11:00)

Altar Guild – Maria Geier, Elenor Davis

This Week's Commemorations

Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church

Friday, April 19, 2024

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

In Our Prayers

- For Easter joy to spread throughout the world, including within our lives and the lives of people we love. May Christ be trusted, and be made known.
- In celebration of the gift of Holy Baptism with Rhone Matthew Gooderham, baptized into the Church on April 7.
- For all in harms way due to violence and warfare, those experiencing economic hardships, and all who serve in areas of public safety
- 6 • For the Senior Pastor Call process, that the Holy Spirit guide the discernment of candidates and those serving on the Pastoral Call Committee: Sam Gmetro, John Hayduk, Jay Machado, Kathy Neumann, Allison Younger-Waugaman, and Karen Wolf
- For those with health concerns: Janice Snyder, Chip Difiore, Sue Nerlinger, Maddie Polenz, Rev. Daniel Benuska healing from surgery, Ellie Hendrickson (Edna Martin's great-granddaughter), Jim Schultz, Emerson Buskirk, Leo McDonald (grandson of Dianne), Kristy Younger, Cliff Preuss, Terri Civittolo, Liz Dimmock, Nina Long, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Andrew Boraggina ahead of surgery, Marc Heidmann, Officer Nickolas, Baby Miles, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), Lisa (friend of Jim Huetter), those quietly receiving medical treatments, those grieving losses, and those experiencing mental health concerns, including Rev. Gerry Miller, former Pastor with Messiah Lutheran, and his adult son Michael. We pray for Karen Wolf, and her family, at the death of Karen's mother.

God's Word for Next Week

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4: 5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3: 16-24, John 10: 11-18

We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for worship next week.

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Jesus Medley setting by Patricia Sanders Cota

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Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Minister of Youth – Adonai Henderson

Technology Manager – Jared Waugaman

Building Manager – Jason Reynolds

Messiah School Principal – Helen Casselberry

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Bookkeeper & Pierstorf College Fund Business Manager – Lisa Daley

Administrative Assistant – Diane Ward



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Drawing in to Christ. Building up in Christ. Sending out for Christ.

To the glory of God, through the strength of the Spirit.