

First Lutheran Church, Morris MN

Order of Worship for Sunday, April 11, 2021: Second Sunday of Easter

Today, we hear the story of the mystery of Jesus coming among the disciples, after his resurrection. We hear of Thomas, who was not there, who cannot believe their words. The mystery of Christ's presence among us is a great mystery, indeed! And, a promise. Today, we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us.

Gathering

Welcoming & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

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

*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. **Amen.***

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

Hymn: "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" #672 (blue hymnal)

1. Christ is risen! Shout hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder;
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.
2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection.
Not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.
3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
never more shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the first and last is with us.
Sing hosanna, ev'ryone!

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Word

Reading: Acts 4:32-35

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵ They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Psalm 133

How good and how pleasant it is, **when kindred live together in unity!**

It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, **flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. **For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life evermore.**

Reading: 1 John 1:1–2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ² this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— ³ we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ² and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Gospel Acclamation #172

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallejujah.

Gospel: John 20:19-31 (*response after announcement of Gospel: **Glory to you, O Lord***)

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.

(*response after reading of Gospel: **Praise to you, O Christ***)

Message: *The Breath of Life*

Hymn: "O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing" #386

1. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
O sons and daughters, let us sing.
with heav'nly host to Christ our king:
today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia!
2. That Easter morn, at break of day,
the faithful women went their way
to seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia!
3. An angel clad in white they see,
who sits and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee." Alleluia!
4. That night the apostles met in fear;
among them came their master dear,
and said, "My peace be with you here." Alleluia!
5. When Thomas first the tidings heard,
that they had seen the risen Lord,
he doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!
6. "My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
and look upon my hands, my feet;
not faithless, but believing be." Alleluia!
7. No longer Thomas was denied;
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia!
8. How blest are they who have not seen,
and yet whose faith has constant been,
for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Text: Jean Tisserand, Music: 15th Century French tune. Public Domain

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 again 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.

Offering/Offertory #186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free spirit.
Create I me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Music: J.A. Freylinghausen. Public Domain.

Prayers & Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Peace *Please share a sign of peace with one another*

Sending

Hymn: "Thine is the Glory" #376

1. Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes
where thy body lay. **Refrain**
2. Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting! **Refrain**
3. No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. **Refrain**

Refrain:
Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry,
thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry. Music: George F.Handel. © Public Domain

Benediction

Go in peace, serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

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