

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia! Amen.

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Mfurahini, haleluya

M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.

m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.
 Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.

A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.

m - si - fu - ni sa - sa yu ha - i.
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 and in its con - quest his might did show.
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

Refrain

Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.
Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.
Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.
Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

- 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has arisen this world to save. Jesus' redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*
- 5 Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be. Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: Tanzanian traditional

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***GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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**

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. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

A reading from Acts:

¹²[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."

A Word for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 4

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 dishonor 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 upon your bed.**

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.**

SECOND 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.

A reading from 1 John:

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.

A Word for God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
 rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
 Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615
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***GOSPEL – Luke 24:13-35**

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

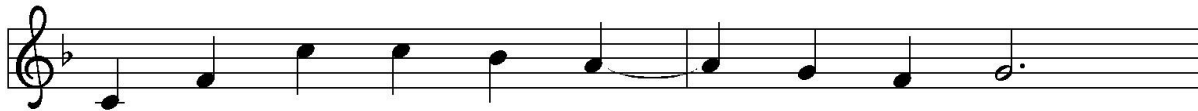
CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

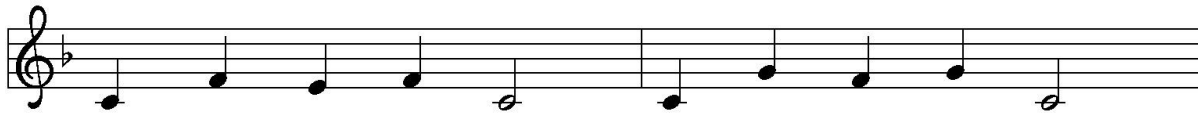
Day of Arising



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
Music: RAABE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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*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.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYER REFRAIN

ELW 388

Be Not Afraid

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The second system of musical notation is identical to the first, featuring a treble and bass staff with the same melody and accompaniment, and the lyrics written below.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Let us rejoice and be glad on this festival of Christ's resurrection, offering our prayers to God for all in any need, concluding each petition with the Easter response "for Christ is risen," and you are invited to respond, "**Christ is risen indeed.**"*

Father in Heaven, we thank you for all you have given us in your word which enables us to become your children and to find your way for us on earth. Bless us and give us the Holy Spirit. Protect us so that nothing can harm us, for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

O Lord, you know each star that you have created, you know the secrets of every heart. Bring your loving mercy to all who are fearful and broken, wounded and needy, that our hungers may be satisfied in the city of your peace through Christ who is our peace, for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

God, we give you thanks for bringing us out of the shadows of night into the light, and we ask you for the joy of spending this day with you so when evening comes we may once more give you thanks through Jesus Christ, for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. Today we pray especially for Harbor of Grace Lutheran Church in Muskegon and their pastor, Rev. Jake Ferra, for Christ is risen:

Christ is risen indeed.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

Risen One,

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.

***WORDS TO LOVE BY**

Where Jesus is...there is joy, there is peace, there is love.
And that is why he made himself the Bread of Life
 To be our life of love and joy.
 No one else can give what he gives,
 and he is there all the time.
 We have only to realize that.

Dear Jesus,

**Help us to spread your fragrance everywhere we go,
Flood our souls with your spirit and life.**

**Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly
 that our lives may only be a radiance of yours.**

Shine through us

And be so in us

**That every soul we come in contact with
 may feel your presence in our soul.**

**Let them look up and see no longer us
but only Jesus.**

Stay with us

**And then we shall begin to shine as you shine,
so shine as to be light to others.**

The light, O Jesus will be all from you.

None of it will be ours.

It will be you shining on others through us.

**Let us thus praise you in the way you love best
 By shining on those around us.**

**Let us preach you without preaching
 not by words but by our examples
 by the catching force**

the sympathetic influence of what we do

the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to you. Amen

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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.

*BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

ELW 674

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



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!

Refrain



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

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2055 E. Columbia Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49014
269-963-5356

Welcome! We believe God created all of humanity in God's image. Since every person is made in the image of God, every person is part of God's family. Whatever your gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, income, mental or physical ability, age, religious background, nationality, or political ideology, you are welcome here. Diversity of skills, gifts, talents, opinions, and experiences are what strengthen the body of Christ. "For all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28b).

Our thanks to all those who give of their time, talent, and prayers for our church and God's work in the world. Assisting with worship today:

Preacher	Tresa Garver
Worship Leader	Jeff Andert
Assisting Minister	Linda Hermann
Musician/Choir Director	Ronald Cung
Sound Board	Travis Sullivan
Prayers	Linda Hermann

Contact info:

Kjersten Sullivan, Pastor

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Church Office

Office: 269-963-5356

Sermon transcripts can be found at: www.tlcbattlecreek.org/sermons

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY
April 14-21, 2024

TODAY: 10:30am Worship | 11:30am Coffee Hour

MONDAY:

TUESDAY: 10:30am Worship & Music Mtg | 1pm Facebook Live Bible Chat

WEDNESDAY: 10:30am Bible Chat | 5:30pm Bible Chat | 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY: 11:30am Roadrunners @ Finley's | 5:30pm FED worship and dinner

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY:

NEXT SUNDAY: 10:30am Worship | 11:30am Coffee Hour

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer requests are gathered from the spoken prayer requests during worship and can also be added by calling or emailing Pastor Kjersten. Prayer requests will stay on the list for three weeks and can be renewed.

April 7: Tresa as she prepares to preach next week, Angela (Tresa's sister), Ron, Arlene, Laurie, all the people online today, Joanne, Linda, Vicky, family and friends of Bob.

March 31: Family of Pete, Linda, Tish, Tresa and Art, all affected by the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, Joanne, Tammy (Martens' niece)

March 24: Jack (friend of the Martens)

SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

Today in worship we hold in prayer our brothers and sisters at Harbor of Grace Lutheran Church in Muskegon and their pastor, Rev. Jake Ferra. Learn more about their ministry at: <https://www.harborofgrace.org/>.

Our prayer partner for next week is Trinity Lutheran Church in New Era and their pastor, Rev. Sarah Samuelson. Learn more about their ministry at: <https://www.tlcnewera.org/>.