

Third Sunday of Easter

Prelude

I Know that My Redeemer Lives—W. Held
I Know that My Redeemer Lives—M. Burkhard

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn

464

The refrain is sung once at the beginning of the hymn and a second time at the conclusion of the hymn.

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done; Now is the victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

The pow'rs of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

The three sad days have quickly sped, He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

He broke the age-bound chains of hell; The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!

Confession of Sins

please stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Kyrie

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

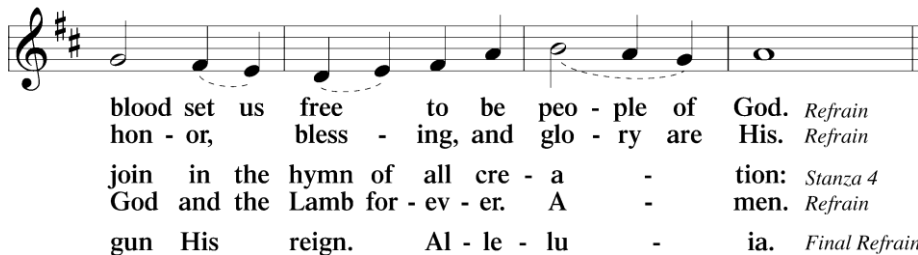
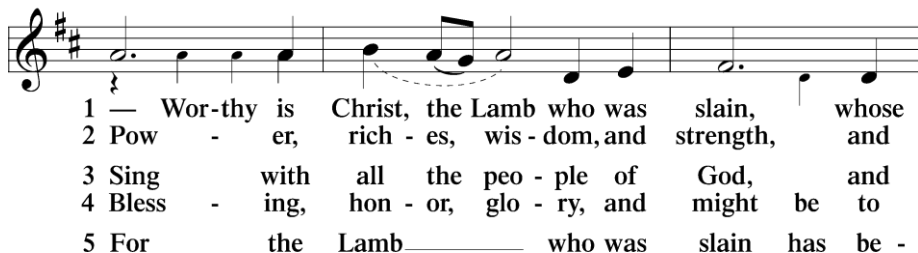
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- 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.
- G Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- G Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- G Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Acts 3:11-21

While [the lame man] clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And His name—by faith in His name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

1 John 3:1-7

[John writes:] See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that He appeared in order to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

please stand

G **(sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? you have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:36-49

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

As [the disciples] were talking about these things, Jesus Himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you

troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See My hands and My feet, that it is I myself. Touch Me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, He said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate before them.

Then 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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

Little Sermon

Hymn of the Day

479

Christ is risen, Christ is living, Dry your tears, be unafraid!
Death and darkness could not hold Him, Nor the tomb in which He lay.
Do not look among the dead for One who lives forevermore;
Tell the world that Christ is risen, Make it known He goes before.

If the Lord had never risen, We'd have nothing to believe.
But His promise can be trusted: "You will live, because I live."
As we share the death of Adam, So in Christ we live again;
Death has lost its sting and terror, Christ the Lord has come to reign.

Death has lost its old dominion, Let the world rejoice and shout!
Christ, the firstborn of the living, Gives us life and leads us out.
Let us thank our God, who causes Hope to spring up from the ground;
Christ is risen, Christ is giving Life eternal, life profound.

Sermon

Confessing the Author of Life

Acts 3:11-22

Hymn of Response

587 stanza 1

I know my faith is founded On Jesus Christ, my God and Lord;
And this my faith confessing, Unmoved I stand on His sure Word.
Our reason cannot fathom The truth of God profound;
Who trusts in human wisdom Relies on shifting ground.
God's Word is all-sufficient, It makes divinely sure;
And trusting in its wisdom, My faith shall rest secure.

Prayer of the Church

please stand

Service of the Sacrament

pages 160-163

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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

C *(sung)* Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

P Blessed are You...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- G** 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.**
- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ...
- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- G** Amen.
- G** *(sung)* Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of the Sacrament

478 stanzas 1-3

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
 The passover of gladness, The passover of God.
 From death to life eternal, From sin's dominion free,
 Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil That we may see aright
 The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light
 And, list'ning to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
 His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful, Let earth its song begin,
 Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.
 Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;
 For Christ the Lord has risen, Our joy that has no end!

482 This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
 My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow: Refrain.

Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day prison,
 Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
 But now has Christ arisen!

Death's flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;
 Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver: Refrain.

My flesh in hope shall rest And for a season slumber
 Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in number:

Communion Blessing

please stand

Canticle

page 164

C *(sung)* Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction

page 212

P Let us pray...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C *(sung)* Amen.

Closing Hymn

478 stanza 4

All praise to God the Father, All praise to God the Son,
All praise to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne
And honor, pow'r, and glory Ascribe to God alone!

Postlude

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds—H. Hobby

Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 4:1-12; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

Confessing the Author of Life—Acts 3:11-22

How did church officials and Emperor Charles V attempt to cancel Luther at the Diet of Worms?

How did the religious leaders attempt to cancel Peter and John?

How does our culture today seek to cancel Christ and those who belong to Him?

S_____ wants to cancel Christ and the Gospel.

The question every believer must ask: Am I going to c_____ in fear or am I going to

c_____ Christ?

LIVING THE SERMON... On your confirmation day, you stood before the altar and promised “to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it.” Consider what this promise means and how you keep this promise today when so many are opposed to Christ and the Gospel. What can we learn from the example of faithful Christians in the past to help us confess Christ faithfully in our time?

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH... Give thanks to God that Christ, the Gospel, and the Church will never be canceled, that the gates of hell will never prevail. Pray that as a congregation and as believers we would faithfully confess Christ and the Gospel, even in the face of opposition.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE... located next to the baptismal font is lit during the fifty days of the Easter season, at baptisms, and at funerals. The candle represents the life that is ours through the risen Christ. May the candle remind us that Christ is risen, that we have received new life in our baptism, and will one day dwell with Him in perfect life and joy.

Our Weekly Schedule

Worship Services

Sunday Worship Services at 8 and 10:45 AM

Wednesday Worship Service at 4:45 PM

Online Service posted by Thursday mornings at stpaulcolumbus.org

Radio worship service Sundays at 8:30 AM on 1010 AM and 98.1 FM

Holy Communion Offered

All Sunday and Wednesday Services

2 PM Small Group Communion offered

By appointment at church or your house by contacting one of the pastors

Christian Education

Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study* Sundays at 9:30 AM

Bible Study Wednesdays at 9 AM and 6 PM

*Adult Bible Study is live-streamed on the St. Paul YouTube Channel each Sunday at 9:30 AM