

2nd Sunday of Easter - Online Service

Sunday, April 19th, 2020

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

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WELCOME & EASTER GREETING:

Christ is risen! *Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!*

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HYMN: *Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing* (ELW 389)

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.
- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray. **Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who 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.**

HYMN: *Now the Green Blade Rises* (ELW 379)

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

GOSPEL: Gospel: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁹When 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." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶A 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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION (for the text, visit www.raspberryman.wordpress.com, “An earth-quaking resurrection”)

PRAYERS OF PETITION:

Let us pray for all those in need – in the world, the church and our lives – saying “Lord, in your mercy” and responding, **Hear our prayer.**

Patient God, help us accept the slower pace of our lives now – in quarantine, in physical isolation. Help us pay attention to and see the good which we have taken for granted in the past and overlooked in our impatience. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, bring recovery to those who are sick or who carry the covid-19 virus without knowing it. Heal them and protect those around them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of growth, help us accept the changes we are undergoing in our personal and public lives. Give us wisdom and courage to adopt what good we have learned in our isolation to the new world emerging on the other side of this crisis. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate God, encourage those who live by themselves. Uplift their spirits with the hope that you are with them and that they are not isolated from the prayers, the phone calls and loving attention of neighbours, friends and family. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace and mercy, protect those who live and work in long term care homes afflicted by the coronavirus. Bring to them the resources they need to meet the basic needs of the residents there. Empower personal care workers, nurses and doctors who attend to them in their care. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of intimate presence, accompany those who journey the long and dark road of grief. Comfort and bring peace to those who mourn at the death of loved ones. Give

them hope in the resurrection you promise for those who trust in you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of glory and new life, give those who celebrate anniversaries, birthdays and special milestones a measure of joy amid the heaviness of the world right now. Surround them with signs of your never-failing love and fill their hearts with thanksgiving, courage and peace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hand we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;
and 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.**

HYMN: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* (ELW 365)

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!

where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you in grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favour, and give you peace. **Amen.**

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